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THE TIMES

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20p

Tornadoes kill 73 in Carolina

The National Guard has been sent to both North and South Carolina to help with rescue attempts after at least 73 people were killed when a string of tornadoes hit the two states. Thousands of people were made homeless by the storms which cut power supplies in many areas Back page

Arms rebuff

A British appeal to the Soviet Union to return to the nuclear arms negotiations in Geneva met with a "disappointing" response when Mr Georgy Kornienko, Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister, had talks at the Foreign Office.

Beirut handover

French troops in Beirut were handing over to Lebanese police as a committee of Christian, Druze and Muslim leaders met to discuss a new ceasefire Page 6

Ex-minister dies

Lord Brooke of Cumnor, who, as Mr Henry Brooke, was the Conservative Home Secretary from 1962 to 1964, has died, aged 80, at his home in Mildenhall, Wiltshire
Obituary, page 14



Family shooting

A man believed to have killed his wife, mother and daughter, shot himself dead as he was cornered by the police in South Yorkshire Page 2

Lotus threat

Group Lotus, the sports car maker, says it will bar its gates on Monday to Inland Revenue investigators who have been examining its accounts for 14 weeks Page 17

French cutback

The French Government approved substiantial cuts in the steel, coal and shipbuilding industries Page 6

Biter bitten

Des Drummond, the Leigh and Great Britain winger, was suspended by the Rugby League for five games after being sent off earlier this month for biting an opponent Page 22

MI5 to investigate weaknesses in defence security

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government has ordered the Security Service (MI5) to conduct a comprehensive overhaul of security inside the Defence Intelligence Staff after an investigation by the Security Commission, which produced its report yesterday, disclosed weaknesses and inadequacies in present arrangements.

Security failings inside the Ministry of Defence's intelligence operation came to light as the commission inquired into the case of a young lance corporal in the Army Intelligence Corps who attempted unsuccessfully to pass secrets, gained while on temporary secondment to the Ministry, to the Russians.

In its report to the Prime Minister the commission, chaired by Lord Bridge of Harwich, expressed concern over a "general laxity of approach" in the DIS to restricted positive vetting certificates.

It also raised questions over the rules governing the destruction of classified documents and the complex security instructions given to staff, and made clear its view that an internal investigation by the Ministry since the case had been inadequate.

The critical commission report came on the same day that the Minister admitted that British military secrets had fallen into "unauthorized" hands in Cyprus.

This followed allegations that young soldiers had been blackmailed into giving information.

Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary for the Armed Forces, said in a letter to a Labour MP that it now seemed likely that classified information has been passed to unauthorized recipients. Investigations were continuing and it was too early to assess the significance of the matter and what charges would be made.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher last night announced the Government's acceptance of the commission's recommendation for a review of protective security in the DIS. About 1,000 staff are employed there, gathering technological, economic and military intelligence from the Soviet block.

The Government has also accepted the commission's general recommendations, which will apply to all government departments, the security and intelligence agencies and the armed forces.

These were: that guidance should be issued on the employment of holdera of restricted postitive vetting certificates, with special consideration to the circumstances in which people under 21 are allowed access to top secret material; that rules governing destruction of documents be reviewed; that security instructions be written in clear and unambiguous terms.

The commission investigated the case of Philip Aldridge, who was sent to prison for four years at the Central Criminal Court in January, 1983. He had stolen a secret document, believed to be a weekly assessment produced by the Joint Intelligence Committee, while seconded for 2 weeks in August, 1982, to a small section in the DIS covering intelligence from Argentina after the Falklands war.

The court was told that Aldridge made contact with the Russians through coded messages in the personal columns of the *Daily Telegraph* in which he was referred to as "Spider" and the Soviet Embassy as "Mum". He was unmasked when various telephone numbers for the Soviet Embassy were found in his diary by his commanding officer.

Although the commission concluded that Aldridge's attempts to sell secrets were frustrated, it found that an undoubted breach of security gave him the opportunity to remove the document.

Aldridge had restricted positive vetting clearance because he was under 21, which should have meant that he had access to secrets only on a "need to know" basis and under strict supervision.

● The Government has began to operate a tougher, more intensive system of security screening for officers in Whitehall's secret services in an attempt to reduce the chance of KGB penetration. (Peter Hennessy writes).

The security authorities are

Continued on back page, col 4

Returning the fire: A policewoman throwing back a smoke bomb that came from a crowd of several hundred outside the Royal Exchange. Traffic was halted as protesters swarmed through City streets.

Strike for budget halts Liverpool

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

Thousands of Merseyside workers staged a one-day strike in support of Labour's bankruptcy budget yesterday as the city council went into a session to vote on it.

A march through the city centre before the vote failed to pull in the 30,000 the militant council leaders had expected. Police marshalling the two-mile rally estimated that between 10,000 and 15,000 took part.

A[illegible] supporters [illegible] Mr Eric Heffer, the Labour Party chairman, promise to campaign for high-level support for the council's stand. He said: "If it's OK for Maggie to let the EEC go broke, then it is all right for these lads here to fight like this."

A strike in the city in support of the Labour campaign meant no buses or Mersey ferries were running. Some train crews did not turn up for work, and municipal car parks in the city centre were closed.

Liverpool's 2,500 dockers also struck, and there were walkouts at some factories. Schools were closed and 80,000 children stayed home because of a caretakers' strike. There were no funerals at municipal cemeteries.

Non-emergency ambulances carrying outpatients were turned back at hospital gates by striking national health service workers.

The march ended with a rally outside the town hall just before the start of the budget meeting. Loudspeakers relayed the events in the council chamber to the crowd outside.

All leave for Merseyside police was cancelled for the day and Dale Street in the city centre was closed down around the town hall.

The council meeting coincided with the announcement of the latest unemployment figures, which show that almost one in five Merseysiders are without jobs.

The number of jobless in the county is 135,000, a slight drop on last month, and the number of vacancies in Jobcentres rose to 3,500.

At the head of the march was the Liverpool Council's deputy leader and militant supporter Mr Derek Hatton. He said: "It is a magnificent turnout which is beyond my wildest dreams."

Jobless trend up in spite of recovery

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England yesterday added its measured tones to the growing chorus predicting continued economic recovery well into next year.

In its *Quarterly Bulletin*, published yesterday, it says that despite a sluggish start, the current recovery may yet prove more durable than its predecessors.

Although the *Bulletin* does not contain precise forecasts, the Bank is thought to endorse the Treasury's prediction of 3 [illegible] this year. But it [illegible] on employment [illegible].

That pessimism was reinforced yesterday by news that the underlying jobless trend is still worsening. The total number of people claiming unemployment benefit fell by 43,611 in March to 3,142,775. But unemployment normally does fall in the spring as people find seasonal jobs in construction and tourism.

When this it taken into account and school-leavers are excluded, the number of adults out of work in March rose by 10,900 to 3,016,000 – one in eight of the workforce – and its highest level for a year.

Whitehall is at something of a loss to explain why the jobless trend should be deteriorating at a time when output and employment are clearly picking up.

Manpower, the employment agency, says in a survey out today that the next three months could be the best for new jobs since 1976, with a big increase in the number of employers, including manufacturing companies, planning to expand their workforces.

The Bank of England says in its *Bulletin* that Britain's recovery has been unusually slow this time, despite the contribution of North Sea oil, because the trade balance has worsened sharply. But it expects exports to pick up as recovery abroad – especially in Europe – strengthens.

The Bank also expects the Budget measures on company taxes to stimulate perhaps £1 billion of accelerated investment this year.

Companies have been able to curb labour costs only through exceptional productivity increases, it points out, reiterating its familiar strictures on the need for pay moderation and continued improvements in efficiency.

Rapid earnings growth has, however, boosted living standards, at least for those in work. Livings standards – measured by after-tax incomes, adjusted for inflation – rose last year by 1.5 per cent, the first increase since 1980.

383 held in City protest

By Rupert Morris

About 15,000 council workers and trade unionists marching through London yesterday to protest at Government plans to abolish metropolitan authorities were almost upstaged by a combination of punks, anarchists, nuclear disarmers and people demanding the liberation of gays, women or animals.

Several leading banks were under siege for much of the day as up to 1,000 people in multicoloured hairstyles and all sorts of dress cavorted round the City.

Their protests were chiefly directed against the involvement of financial institutions in the arms trade.

Not everyone in the "Stop the City" demonstration was peacefully inclined. Windows were broken at Barclays Bank, Barclays Bank International, the Clydesdale Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland, all in Lombard Street.

Several cars were damaged, smoke bombs thrown, and slogans sprayed on statues and buildings. Two policemen were slightly injured and 383 arrests were made.

The more improbable demonstrators included two besuited men with a banner reading "Stockbrokers against the Bomb".

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Peking talks for Howe on Hongkong

By William Kay and Henry Stanhope

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will hold talks about the future of Hongkong in Peking between April 15 and 18, the Foreign Office said last night. The announcement was made within 36 hours of the news that Jardine Matheson, Hongkong's oldest trading house, is to create a new parent company in Bermuda because of the growing uncertainty over the Crown Colony.

Yesterday the Hongkong stock market tumbled in the wake of Jardine's decision.

Sir Geoffrey's visit will not be part of the official series of negotiations between Britain and China over China's wish to regain control of Hongkong and the New Territories. The next round of these will be held on April 11-12. Britain will be represented by Sir Richard Evans, the British Ambassador to Peking.

Mr Wu Xueqian, China's Foreign Minister, has issued the invitation to Sir Geoffrey, who is seeking a "comprehensive and personal" view of progress. He will travel to Hongkong on April 18 for two days to meet members of the executive council and other leaders of the community.

Shares slump, page 17

Unions unite to block all coal movement

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Transport, rail, shipping and steel union leaders decided yesterday to block all coal and coke movement throughout Britain in support of the striking miners.

This unprecedented show of sympathetic industrial action, which will inevitably bring the unions into conflict with the Government's labour laws, was agreed at a top level conference of six unions and the miners' leaders in London last night.

Mr James Slater, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, argued after the 2½-hour meeting: "We cannot afford to let the miners lose this strike. It would put us back to 1926 and I doubt if we could recover".

The unions today are setting up a central coordinating committee based at the Westminster headquarters of the Transport and General Workers Union to bring together their separate campaigns of support for the NUM.

The key agreement reached yesterday was that the unions will "extend this support by referring a recommendation to all our executive committees to black all movement of coal in Britain and request all members of our unions not to cross picket lines."

This is only a formality for transport workers as their executive has given national officials of the union authority to give the miners any support required. The National Union of Railwaymen and the train drivers union, ASLEF, are confident that the agreement will be strongly supported by their executives. The National Union of Seamen said it is already implementing the policy.

However, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation may oppose this unexpectedly hard line. The opposition likely to come from the union's executive which is being reconvened next week.

If coking coal is not supplied to British Steel and private plants, many thousands of steel workers face progressive lay-offs as vital supplies run out.

One consignment of coking coal was blacked by transport workers union dockers at Teesside yesterday and the seamen's union says that another ship is tied up in Bremen where sailors are refusing to permit coal to be loaded.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president if the NUM, was delighted with the help promised by the other unions. He said: "I am quite certain it will strengthen the resolve of the miners currently in dispute over pits and jobs."

Pickets in court; £50m oil stocks; promise on costs, page 2

Life policy relief curbs tightened

The 1984 Finance Bill, published yesterday, confirms that the abolition of tax relief on life assurance premiums could have swingeing effects on existing policies as well as those taken out since Budget day.

Pre-budget life assurance policies could still lose premium relief if they are varied to raise the benefits, extended for a longer period, or if options to develop the policy are taken up.

Mr Marshall Field, chairman of the Life Offices Association, said yesterday that it would be wrong to penalize people who hold policies that have changes build in.

The Bill contains 123 clauses and a further 117 pages of detailed schedules.

Leading article, page 13
Details, page 19

Yard rescue cost still in doubt

The final cost to the taxpayer of the private-sector rescue of Scott Lithgow could be as much as £15m higher than the figures of £71m quoted by the Government.

This emerged yesterday as two Whitehall departments, the Scottish Office and the Department of Trade and Industry, continued to wrangle over the acutal price which Trafalgar House is paying for the Clydeside yard.

The Scottish Office's claim that the price is £20m was formally repudiated last night by the DTI, which again stated that the real price is £12m.

The extraordinary wrangle has added to the confusion created by Whitehall's refusal to disclose the full details of financial terms agreed between Trafalgar House and British Shipbuilders, Scott Lithgow's previous owners.

The additional cost to the taxpayer is likely to arise from negotiations between British Shipbuilders and British Petroleum over a rig, 95 per cent completed, which BP cancelled last month.

Trafalgar House has pledged to complete the rig

Industry sources said last night that BP was likely to agree to take the rig, but only after renegotiating the contract. This is likely to involve British Shipbuilders in compensation and other costs of between £10m and £20m, additional to the £88m of write-offs announced by the Government on Wednesday.

While Trafalgar House is paying £12m for the yard's share capital, it will also have to repay £8m of loans made to Scott Lithgow by British Shipbuilders.

Fears of Arab terror campaign after royal tour

From Christopher Walker, Aqaba, Jordan

The most controversial royal tour of the Queen's 31-year reign is due to end in this balmy, Red Sea resort later today, amid growing fears that it may have provided the catalyst for a deadly new campaign of Arab terrorism aimed at British diplomatic targets in and around the Middle East.

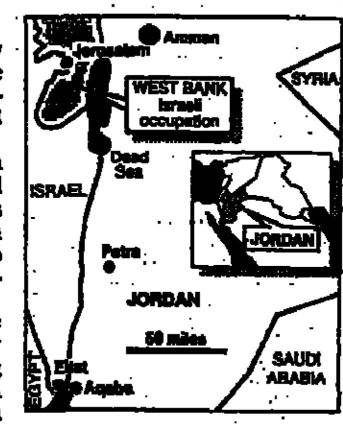
The assassination in Athens on Wednesday of Mr Kenneth Whitty, a first secretary in the cultural section of the British Embassy, was last night being linked with the royal visit to Jordan after responsibility was claimed by the Revolutionary Organization of Socialist Muslims, a previously unknown group believed to be a cover name for the shadowy Palestinian splinter faction headed by Abu Nidal.

The curiously-worded communiqué, which was telephoned anonymously to a news agency in Beirut, claimed that the organization would keep working to free all its members held in British prisons.

This was considered to be a reference to the three Abu Nidal members serving long sentences for the attempted murder in June, 1982, of Mr Shlomo Argov, the former Israeli Ambassador in London.

The Queen did not receive news of the shooting of Mr Whitty until yesterday morning here at the beachside Royal Palace. It immediately cast a heavy shadow over the remaining engagements in a tour which has been marked by unprecedented security and widely praised personal courage on the part of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Although embarrassed Buckingham Palace officials tried to play down any suggestin



of a link between the assassination and the tour – one even suggested that Mr Whitty may have been murdered for "domestic reasons" – the timing and wording of the Beirut communiqué was considered by diplomatic observers to have raised the strong possibility of a connexion.

The only other theory being considered was that the killing had Libyan backing, though was thought unlikely.

The assassins said, in their message that Mr Whitty had been killed because of Britian's attempt "to resume its former colonial role in the world, and by spreading colonial culture under a new guide".

The shooting was also sad to have been aimed against Britain's "continuing detention and persecution of our Muslim fighters".

The Syrian-backed Abu Nidal group was not specifically named, suggesting to Western observers that the killing – which could prove diplomatically embarrasssing to the Syrian Government – may not have received the sanction of Damascus. In the past Syria has frequently found it convenient to distance itself from terrorist attacks carried out by Abu Nidal's followers.

Another pointer to the connexion with Abu Nidal – a man who has himself been sentenced to death by the Palestine Liberation Organization – was its location. Because of notoriously lax security the Greek capital has long been a favourite theatre for the splinter group's operations, and was the scene in December of the killing of two Jordanian diplomatic staff by the Syrian-backed gunmen.

The Athens attack came less than a week after Abu Nidal boasted openly of planting a bomb which exploded at Amman's Intercontinental Hotel in an unsuccessful attempt to sabotage the Queen's visit and destabilize the monarchy of King Husain.

After the British Government

Continued on back page, col 5

Pickets in court and coal board urged to seek enforcement of injunction

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Striking miners intensified their secondary picketing of power stations yesterday and 24 were arrested at Blyth, Northumberland, as the National Coal Board came under renewed pressure to institute proceedings for contempt against the National Union of Mineworkers' Yorkshire area.

Picketing was, however, much less intensive outside the 38 coal mines still working normally, and there were only 15 arrests in the coalfields where men are still reporting for work.

The Institute of Directors said that it weakened the authority of the High Court to have its orders forbidding "flying" Yorkshire pickets flagrantly ignored. Failure to enforce the injunction handed down two weeks ago might encourage the spread of secondary action to other industries, Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the institute said.

Private sector employers were becoming increasingly concerned at the board's inaction, and the behaviour of militant miners was rapidly deteriorating, he told a meeting of businessmen in Brighton.

"It is unfair on the police, battling to maintain law and order in the front line, that those behind the scenes organizing unlawful disruption should be free to continue with impunity."

But Mr Eric Heffer, chairman of the Labour Party, said in a radio interview: "We are getting to a stage in this country where workers want to picket for trade union rights and to protect their jobs and suddenly they have become criminals.

"The police have no right, absolutely no right, to stop people from picketing peacefully. We have deplored violence on the picket lines but we have said that this had been because of the massive police presence – they have contributed to the atmosphere and to the violence that has taken place."

The police yesterday arrested 24 pickets for obstruction at the gates of Blyth power station, including five "flying" pickets from Scotland and a further five from the Midlands.

The arrested men appeared before magistrates in Ashington charged variously with obstructing the police or behaviour likey to cause a breach of the peace. They were released on bail to appear again on April 30.

Three coal merchants applied yesterday to the Court of Session in Edinburgh for an order preventing Scottish union leaders from instructing or encouraging "flying" pickets after an incident in which 200 pickets massed outside premises at Avonbridge near Falkirk.

Union officials deny knowledge or responsibility for the picketing. The court was told that the men lay in front of lorries, chained gates, smashed a lorry windscreen, and blocked the road with logs. Judgment is expected today.

£50m spent on oil for power stations

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) has spent £50m on heavy fuel oil on the Rotterdam spot market to preserve its coal stocks.

Power for the national grid is now flowing at higher rates from the board's five large oil-fired stations at a cost of half to two-thirds more than power generated by coal.

The Government is being asked to compensate the electricity industry financially as output is increased from the stations at Fawley, Pembroke, Ince on Merseyside, Isle of Grain and Littlebrook in Kent. All the stations are strategically placed for deliveries by sea or by direct pipeline from refineries, as well as being close to the main electricity consuming areas.

Officially, the CEGB says its coal stocks are still high, with an estimated six minths supplies at some stations. But unofficially it admits that the initial stocks of 23.9 million tonnes have been running down quicker than was anticipated when the miners' strike started.

A CEGB spokesman said: "We are burning more oil to preserve our buffer stocks as long as possible."

A total of 20 of the 95 power stations in the country are now being picketed, but so far the CEGB says there has been no direct effect on output.

Its move into the Rotterdam spotmarket to buy heavy fuel oil – a product in increasingly limited supply as modern refineries convert crude oil into the higher value light fuels – has resulted in the market price of $175 (£121) a tonne at the start of the month rising to $185 a tonne yesterday.

The CEGB has contracted to buy half a million tonnes, on the spotmarket in addition to the normal contracts it has with the British companies to supply just under 10 million tonnes a year.

Electricity produced by the oil-fired stations has dropped from a total of 27 per cent of the market in the mid-1970's to only 4 per cent last year.

Any disruption of supplies by coal shortages or picketig miners will also strengthen the case for Britain increasing its cross-channel links with the French nuclear power stations

Councils win promise on costs

The Government has decided to help all local authorities with the extra cost of policing the miners' strike, which is running at an estimated £1m a day, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced yesterday.

In a Commons written reply he said he would exempt from grant penalties the extra spending by councils on policing the pickets. Several councils, led by Nottinghamshire County Council, have protested that their ratepayers will have to foot a large part of the bill, through no fault of their own, and that they risked higher financial penalties for further exceeding the Government's spending targets.

Earlier yesterday, a delegation from Nottinghamshire County Council and four local MPs, met Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary. Afterwards Mr Dennis Pettitt, leader of Nottingham's Labour-controlled council, said that Nottinghamshire taxpayers would be very grateful to the Government.

A Home Office spokesman said that his department would work out urgently the size of the Government's contribution.



Police Bill: 2

United lobby makes the change

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The sustained lobbying, remarkable for uniting doctors, lawyers, police officers, and civil libertarians, can take credit for the new shape of the police Bill about to emerge in the Commons.

The second Bill has not exactly suffered a sea change since its first appearance. But its loss with the General Election gave the government and critics time for a second look, and it now appears significantly revised.

The Government took on board much of the previous criticism in the second publication. With a commitment to tape-recording police interviews came a White Paper for an independent prosecution service – the two chief safeguards critics wanted to balance new police powers.

The definition of a "serious arrestable offence", under attack for being too subjective, was tightened and the offences listed. There was also a new police complaints authority, with power to supervise complaints against police officers.

The changes, however, did not meet all objections, and after its mammoth committee stage the Bill appears once more revised.

There are two major changes: The police, after a hard-fought and costly campaign, win the right to legal representation before disciplinary tribunals for serious charges.

Secondly, detention of suspects before charge, allowed to be up to 96 hours in the case of certain serious offences, is to have the safeguard of an extra court review.

Detention beyond 36 hours already must go before magistrates. Now there must be a second review, with both parties present, at a later stage in the detention. The Law Society will press for this to be at 60 hours.

The Government also agreed a scheme of duty solicitors round-the-clock in police stations, estimated to cost £6m.

Concluded

Leading article, page 13

Man shoots himself in street after killing his family

By Craig Seton

Armed policemen and onlookers watched in horror yesterday as a man who had killed his wife, daughter and mother turned a gun to his head and shot himself dead in the street.

The four dead in the tragedy were named last night as Mr Frank Parry, aged 36, an Oxfordshire County Council librarian, his wife Audrey, their daughter Justine, aged 12 and Mrs Hilary Parry, aged 79.

Mr Parry, who lived with his family in Banbury, Oxfordshire, shot himself by placing a pistol in his mouth yesterday outside his mother's council old folks' home in Longfellow Road, Herringthorpe, Rotherham, south Yorkshire.

Police officers, some of them armed, were closing in and they could do nothing as Mr Parry calmly killed himself. His mother's body had been discovered covered in blood by a wall close to her home and the librarian's wife and daughter were also dead. They had all been shot.

Mr Joseph Harris, aged 75, a neighbour, described what happened: "A young man came out of the bungalow and shot himself while the police watched helplessly. "He had gone over to his car and looked around and I suppose he just saw all the police so he just put the gun to his head and blasted the bottom half of his face away. There was just a deathly silence and no one moved."

The death trail apparenntly began on Wednesday. According to the police, a jogger out running in woods at a local beauty spot near Barnburgh, between Doncaster and Mexborough about eight miles from yesterday's shooting, had seen a man and young girl out walking and heard a shot. He ran to get the police and later blood was found at the scene.

It is believed that Mr Parry's wife and his daughter may have been killed in the woods and were taken by car to his mother's home where she too was killed.

Inspector John Bennett of South Yorkshire police said the bodies of four people had been found at or near the house in Rotherham, all with gunshot wounds. He said nobody else was being sought by the police.

Last night neighbours in Oxfordshire described the Parry's as the ideal family. The family owned two cars. Mrs Parry had a part-time job.

Mr Ernest Webb, a neighbour, said "they were very close. They did everything as a family and thought the world of Justine, their only child. Their most frequent hobby seemed to be swimming together at Banbury baths.

"They appeared reasonably well off and I should not think they had too many cash troubles. They were from Yorkshire and kept to themselves, although you could always count on them to act as good neighbours."

Inquiry likely into poly degree standards

By Karen Gold

A government inquiry to investigate standards of degree courses in polytechnics and non-university colleges is likely to be established by the Department of Education and Science in the next two months.

The inquiry would concentrate on standards of teaching and examination in polytechnic and college degrees, and on the royal-charter Council for National Academic Awards, set up to ensure that polytechnic and college students reach the same standards as university students.

It awards most non-university degrees in Britain. Some college degrees are validated by universities near by and those would also be investigated.

It is intended that the inquiry will be carried out briskly by a high-level committee with an independent chairman, reporting to ministers in no longr than a year and preferably within six months.

Among the subjects the inquiry would consider are how relevant degrees are to industry, standards of degree course entrants, the possibility of some polytechnics validating their own degrees, and examination procedures, particularly non-traditional ones.

It would be presented as a parallel initiative to the present universities' working group on academic standards, and to the recent announcement by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, of government moves to standardize public examinations for schoolchildren.

Alternative examination procedures, particularly those that allow students to see their examination "themes" before they take the papers, are at the heart of Sir Keith's continuing dissatisfaction with some CNAA-validated degrees, such as the sociology and applied social studies degrees at the Polytechnic of North London.

The inspectorate published a critical report of the degrees last autumn, embarrassing the CNAA, which had just praised the department running them and leading Sir Keith to say that he was considering an inquiry into the design, validation, and teaching of all non-university degrees.

Scargill's pension fund policy

Mr Arthur Scargill yesterday defended his union's policy of "miners' money for Britain" over investment of asset's of the 3bn mineworkers' pension fund.

The NUM president told the High Court judge, that he and his fellow union trustees on the fund were acting for reasons they honestly and fairly believed were in the best interests of the fund's beneficiaries and its contributaries.

"We will contend that at all times we have exercised our responsibilities as trustees correctly, fairly and in accordance with the law", he told the judge, Vice-Chancellor Sir Robert Megarry.

Mr Scargill, acting as his own advocate for union nominees on the fund, was outlining his defence to the case brought against them by the National Coal Board's representatives on the fund.

The NCB side has accused Mr Scargill and his co-nominees of acting imprudently and in breach of their duty as trustees in blocking the latest investment strategy for the plan. The two sides are deadlocked over how best to use the fund's investment assets.

The union side says it wants no further direct investments abroad or in fuel interests which compete with coal.

Investing pension funds in Britain would "help create opportunities for manufacturing industries, generate growth in the economy, generate employment and thereby create an increase demand for British coal", said Mr Scargill.

Overseas investment was "a drain on Britain" and British industry. It led to a reduction in demand for British goods

Cruise run surprises protesters

A cruise missile convoy successfully left its base at Greenham Common, Berkshire, on a training exercise on Wednesday night.

The convoy, this month's second such exercise, was away from Greenham for nearly four hours. It travelled along the M4 motorway and went to the Royal Air Force base at Lyenham, Wiltshire, about ten miles south-west of Swindon and two miles south of the M4.

In times of tension or war, the cruise missiles would be sent from their base to operational sites and the Ministry of Defence has been anxious to practise this. One of the objectives of the women protesters at Greenham Common and others who object to the basing of cruise missiles in Britain has been to prevent those deployments.

The first deployment took place early on Friday, March 9. On both occasions, the protesters have been taken by surprise. As the convoys left the Greenham base shortly after midnight on Wednesday, police swooped down to surround the protesters to prevent them interfering with the movement of the convoys.

By the time the convoy returned to Greenham, about 150 protesters had been alerted and attempts were made to block the entrance.

Although Lyneham was used for this training run, it is extremely unlikely that an RAF operational base would be used as a dispersal point in a crisis. The missiles would almost certainly be sent to remote areas of woodland, as far as possible from areas which might have been identified as likely targets for enemy attack.

Cross-border raid cover-up alleged

From Richard Ford, Belfast

An RUC police constable accused of murdering a terrorist suspect alleged yesterday that on the night of the killing Special Branch officers were operating across the border in the Republic.

He claimed that senior RUC officers invented a story on the events leading to the shooting of two Irish National Liberation Army volunteers to cover up Special Branch and Army surveillance activities and to protect a police informant.

PC John Robinson, aged 29, wrote the names of the three officers on a piece of paper and handed it to the judge at Belfast Crown Court. he denied murdering Seamus Grew, aged 31, who with a colleague Roderick Carroll, aged 22, was shot dead by police on the outskirts a housing estate in Armagh City 15 months ago.

He alleged he was given the cover up story, which the Crown did not challenge, only hours after the shooting when he was being debriefed in Gough Barracks, Armagh. The story was that he was to have been in the vicinity of a village outside Armagh while others set up a road stop and that Mr Grew had gone through it, injuring a police officer. The story was designed, he said, to give the impression that Mr Grew had been chased

Objections from some officers were overruled and he was taken through the story "probably more than once".

He was asked to explain forensic evidence that three shots fired at Mr Grew had not gone through the car door at a range of about three feet. He said he thought he fired from about 10 feet away and the car door had been open.

He had been shocked and upset when he learned at the debriefing that both men had been unarmed.

"I would never have opened fire if I did not believe my life wa in danger. I believed I was dealing with at least two armed terrorists."

Mr Justice MacDermott will give judgment on Monday.

White-collar pay deals average 6%

By David Felton
Labour Correspondent

The Government last night was examining embarrassing evidence that civil servants will need a 6 per cent pay increase this year, twice the limit in its guidelines, if their pay is to keep pace with increases in the private sector.

The evidence is in a report compiled by the Office of Manpower Economics that was delivered to the Treasury and trade unions and will form the basis of pay negotiations. Although the report is supposed to "inform but not constrain" negotiations, the unions will argue that the 500,000 white-collar civil servants should not receive less than the private sector's going rate.

Unions and Whitehall officials last night were refusing to release details of the report. However, it is understood that the key figures for the upper and lower quartile of setlements in the private sector are around 7.5 and 5 per cent respectively.

These figures are important because the negotiations will range between the two figures. The Government will wish to keep the increase close to its 3 per cent limit, especially with negotiations for 900,000 health service workers getting under way.

Union officials will discuss the report at a meeting on Tuesday; the Cabinet is also expected to examine it next week.

Britain sails to protect the Gulf

By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent

Four Royal Navy mine-hunter vessels are sailing to the Mediterranean to be on hand should movement of ships in the Strait of Hormuz be restricted.

About 20 per cent of the non-Communist world's supplies of oil pass through the strait and Whitehall is concerned about the continuing tension between Iran and Iraq and the possible risk to the strait.

The four mine-hunters were due to take part in a Nato exercise in the Mediterranean in May. However, the Ministry of Defence confirmed yesterday that they were sent there early to be readily available to assist in the Gulf if they are needed.

A ministry spokesman said it had no reason to suppose an attempt to close the Strait of Hormuz was likely at the moment. However, there was concern about continuing tension in the area.

Iran has repeatedly threatened that it would close the strait if Iraki military attacks on its oil installations prevented it from exporting oil.

Britain also has two vessels in the Indian Ocean, within easy reach of the Gulf. They are the destroyer HMS Glamorgan and the Type 22 frigate HMS Brazen.

Three of the four mine-hunters are of the Ton class. They are HMS Brinton, Gavinton, and Kirkliston. The fourth is a coastal minesweeper/mine-hunter, HMS Wilton.

President Reagan has committed the United States to ensuring that the Strait of Hormuz remains open to international shipping and an American carrier battle group is based on the USS Midway in the Indian Ocean.

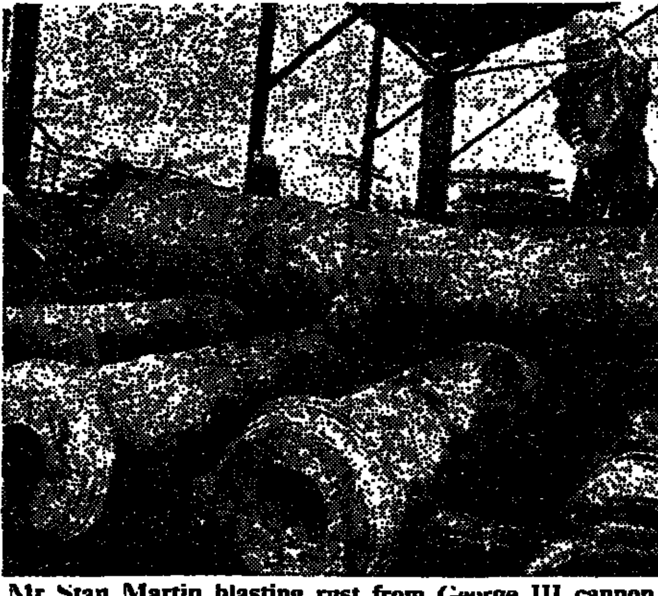
The Strait of Hormuz is about 25 miles wide at its narrowest point and is very deep. Western military circles believe that even a few mines may be enough to deter merchant shipping from entering the strait.

Docks site 'bollards' are cannon

Cannon to the right of them, cannon to the left of them, and a small fortune just waiting to be dug up by whoever realized the value of the great iron bollards that had stood for years on a 16-acre docks site in Woolwich, south-east London.

It was, finally, Mr Stan Martin, in charge of excavating the site, who managed to crack the problem of recovering the 30 George III pieces, dated about 1760, intact enough to sell to museums and other eager buyers for up to £1,000 each.

But first, he and his partner, not appreciating their worth, had sold two for scrap and had to buy them back again. Now they have 20 awaiting buyers and have already sold a couple to the Tower of London and another pair to the Rotunda Museum of Artillery at Woolwich.



Mr Stan Martin blasting rust from George III cannon. (Photograph: John Manning).

The task of transporting and cleaing the cannon, at a cost of £40 each, has been a difficult and expensive one.

They were bombarded with iron filings at high pressure to clear away the layers of rust, mud and clay.

£1m more for Citizens Advice Bureaux

The National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux (NACAB) is to receive an extra £1m in Government funding over the next two years after the Lovelock inquiry into its activities, published last month, cleared it of allegations of political bias

The extra funding of £500,000 in the coming financial year on top of the £6.6m grant already announced, and a further £500,000 in 1985-86, broadly matches the recommendations of the Lovlock inquiry

The extra funds, announced by Mr Alex Fletcher, Minister for Consumer Affairs, were "wholeheartedly welcomed" by Mrs Elizabeth Filkin, NACAB's director.

Grand National affected by ticket forgeries

Thousands of racegoers may have bought forged tickets for tomorrow's Grand National at Aintree racecourse, Liverpool

Five hundred people carrying forgeries were turned back at the gate yesterday on the opening day of the meeting, and the police believe that at least 30,000 forged £25 tickets may have been printed. The price of a county stand ticket at Aintree is £25 for Grand National day and £10 for the other two days.

Mr Peter Smiles, head of security at the Jockey Club, said a tip-off had been received from a man being interviewed by the Metropolitan Police for selling forged tickets for the Ideal Home Exhibition.

Racing, page 23

Left-wing coup threatens future of Labour pair

A left-wing Labour coup in Wakefield could prevent two Labour MPs from standing again at the next election and swing two other Labour seats to the left, it was said last night (our Political Correspondent writes).

Tribune, the left-wing weekly yesterday reported that left-wing candidates had swept the board in district party elections this week. The report appeared under the headline "At last a people's uprising in Wakefield."

The district party covers four Labour seats and one inside source said last night that there was "political turmoil in the area. The left had been gunning for the right for many years

It is now thought that the left could take control of all four constituencies and candidates withing the next 12 months.

Sale room

Satinwood cabinet reaches £140,400

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A satinwood and marquetry cabinet incorporating oval painted vignettes in the manner of the artist Angelica Kauffman – an example of the fine English cabinet-making of the 1770s – stirred bidders' enthusiasm at Christie's yesterday and eventually sold for £140,400.

Christie's had recognized that this type of Neo-Classical furniture, attributed in this case to the workshops of Ince and Mayhew, was likely to be a moneyspinner.

The auctioneers had not published an estimate but had suggested it was worth £75,000 to £100,000.

The cabinet was bought by Mr Adrian Ward-Jackson, a London dealer in pictures and drawings, who sometimes bids for Mrs Seward Johnson.

Mrs Johnson's fortune is based on Johnson's baby powder and other pharmaceutical products. She buys the grandest furniture and this would not be the first time she has gone for a Kauffman item in the sales room.

The sale of highly important English furniture was bid for with a ferocity which indicates that this field is joining Impressionist pictures as the fashionable thing for the very rich to collect.

Mr Christopher Gibbs, the London dealer, paid £75,600 (estimate £40,000 to £50,000) for a set of 12 Regency mahogany dining chairs of chunky distinction, plastered with lion's masks.

A bigger surprise came with the £62,640 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000) paid for only two chairs sent for sale by Lord Cholmondeley.

The pair of Queen Anne black and gold lacquer and giltwood chairs have Chinese export lacquer backs and seats. Lord Cholmondeley had originally decided to sell four of them but later preferred to keep the second two

A sale of musical instruments at Phillips attracted musicians as well as dealers yesterday and the top price was £23,100 (estimate £12,000 to £15,000) paid by M. Matleski, a Dutch musician, for a violin by Joseph Rocca dated 1857.

J. & A. Beare, the London dealers, apparently snapped up the discovery of the sale, paying £12,650 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) for a violin catalogued simply as "eighteenth-century" but in "excellent" condition.

Police station questioning held legal

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The police practice of taking suspects to the police station because questioning there will be more likely to produce a confession is legal, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

The Law Lords unanimously dismissed an appeal by Mrs Mariam Holgate-Mohammed against the chief constable of Hampshire whom she had unsuccessfully tried to sue for wrongful arrest without warrant.

Lord Diplock said that the officer who arrested Mrs Holgate-Mohammed "thought she would be more likely to confess to what he had reasonable cause to believe to be the truth if she was arrested and taken for questioning to the police station".

The question was whether he was right, when making the arrest under the power conferred by the Criminal Law Act, 1967, to consider that factor, Lord Diplock said.

There was an inevitable conflict "between the public interest in preserving the liberty of the individual and the public interest in the detection of crime and the bringing to justice of those who commit it", he said.

No one could be arrested without a warrant unless the constable had reasonable cause to suspect him guilty of an arrestable offence and in the facts of Mrs Holgate-Mohamed's case that appeared to be so, Lord Diplock said.

Mrs Holgate-Mohammed, of Gatcombe Park, Hilsea, Portsmouth, brought her action for false imprisonment after being arrested at her home and held for six hours in 1980 on suspicion of burglary and theft of jewelry. She was released on police bail but later told that no further proceedings would be brought.

Her action against the police was at first successful and she was awarded £1,000 by a judge at Portsmouth County Court. That decision was reversed by the Court of Appeal.

Law Report, page 24

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B Frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.60; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200, Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125, Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75, Yugoslavia Din 100

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Ombudsman complains he has 'less power than any in the world'

By Robin Young

The British Ombudsman has the least adequate powers of any in the world, the retiring Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Sir Cecil Clothier, suggests in his last annual report, published today.

Sir Cecil says that Britain is alone among the 100 countries with national ombudsmen in not allowing the Ombudsman to initiate his own investigations. He also regrets that no government has accepted the strong recommendations of successive select committees that he should be able to investigate personnel and contractual or commercial matters.

This restriction, Sir Cecil says, is peculiar to Britain, and in part only to England, Wales and Scotland since in Northern Ireland the Parliamentary Commissioner is able to examine personnel matters.

"I have felt it a reflection on a parliamentary democracy which prides itself on its considerate attitude towards its citizens that this country alone should impose such a restriction", Sir Cecil writes.

He adds that in five years in office he has also lost faith in the "familiar arguments" which "I have often deployed" that access to the Ombudsman should only be through members of Parliament.

Those dissatisfied with the ultimate response from their MPs, Sir Cecil suggests, should have the right to bring their complaint to the Ombudsman. It would be unlikely to lead to a large increase in acceptable complaints, but would be an improvement on the present system, Sir Cecil says.

Nearly half the work of his term of office, he calculates, has been concerned with complaints about tax and social security. In more than half those cases, investigation showed that mistakes had been made.

Sir Cecil blames legal complexities but adds that these are inevitable. "One can only try ... to have a good system for investigating allegations of error and providing a remedy when the allegations are well-founded".

In 1983 the Parliamentary Commissioner dealt with 809 complaints. The number of full investigations completed was 198, of which 83 were found fully justified and 72 partly justified.

Of 51 complaints against the Department of Health and Social Security which the Ombudsman investigated in 1983, three led to changes in DHSS practice.


Sir Cecil Clothier: 'Hampered by restrictions'.

Computer programs were rewritten so that cheques to cover two benefits are now clearly annotated with the dates for which each has been paid.

The DHSS abandoned carbon-copy forms for applications for industrial disablement benefit which had led to delays in making payments.

Among 39 complaints against the Inland Revenue investigated, one led the Revenue to drop a demand for £57,000 PAYE claimed from an employer who had received an assessment for four years' arrears after being told by the tax office that subsistence payments to his workers would not be taxable.

Another investigation in which mishandling was proved led to a remission of just £14.

But in another case the Ombudsman dismissed an accountant's claim that the Revenue had tried to force him into bankruptcy by delaying tax repayments due to his clients.

Five complaints were investigated against the Ministry of Agriculture, but two were dismissed. In one of those a farmer had written more than 100 letters of complaint over ten years, alleging that the Ministry had not done what it should to stop the spread of ragwort on his land.

Sir Cecil concluded that the farmer "had resorted to exaggeration and abuse", dismissed the complaint, and commended the Ministry for the patience it had shown.


Met on its mettle: The Princess of Wales yesterday receiving a few handy hints on mob control, the handling of street disputes and self-defence during a display at Peel Centre police training ground, Hendon, north London.

A police recruit, Mr Robert Earl, aged 21, presented the royal guest with a silver-plated police whistle and chain and a half-size truncheon.

The Princess of Wales's keen interest in the display, which included a mounted police charge, resulted in her visit running behind schedule because of her insistence on speaking to those taking part.

(Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Magazine marks a century

By Alan Hamilton

The toast yesterday in the South Bank office block that houses the IPC Magazine empire was the chase, the turf, and the road. *Horse and Hound* magazine, the weekly Bible of all who take their sport in the saddle, was celebrating its centenary.

Horse and Hound was founded in 1884 as "a magazine of agriculture and sport", with a 2d cover price.

Now at 80p, and with a 75,000 circulation, it still claims to be Britain's only weekly covering the entire sporting spectrum of the horse.

The anniversary was marked by a celebratory dinner last night attended by Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips.

The editor, Mr Michael Clayton, a former BBC reporter, whose relaxation is hunting, takes a detached view of royal participation in equestrian events.

"We are a serious newspaper", he said. "If Princess Anne falls off a horse, or Prince Philip overturns while carriage-driving, we will report it as a matter of fact."

He added: "We have every reason for optimism. The appeal of the horse as a means of getting out into the countryside, away from towns which are becoming steadily less attractive to live in, can only increase."

'Nasties' evidence in doubt

The survey that claimed that nearly half of children aged seven to sixteen had seen an horrific video film has been questioned by evidence which shows that children do not know the difference between television programmes and films.

Two psychologists from Aston University were so concerned about the research produced by Dr Clifford Hill, of Oxford Polytechnic, that they took his questionnaire into schools – but changed one crucial aspect. They substituted some fabricated film titles for real films.

They reported yesterday that 68 per cent of 11-year-olds claim to have seen films which do not exist. The psychologists said: "Our opinion is that Dr Hill's questionnaire is far too confusing for even 11-year-olds in junior schools."

The two, Dr Guy Cumberbatch and Mr Paul Bates, said: "Frankly we found it embarrassing to waste the time of children and teachers on it."

The researchers say that their evidence is so serious that it questions the original survey. After administering the questionnaire to five classes of 11-year-olds, Dr Cumberbatch and Mr Bates said: "The pattern of results was so stable that we could see no point in continuing."

The Bill which seeks to outlaw "video nasties" is now in the House of Lords

Public may vet law complaints

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Consumer demand will force the legal profession to involve laymen in its complaints procedures, according to a leading official of the Law Society of Scotland.

Mr Kenneth Pritchard, its secretary, said that the legal profession should not oppose such changes.

"Probably within the next two years we will have lay members on our complaints committee, not because they can add or do anything but because I believe the consumer movement will demand a lay element to see justice is being done."

Lawyers should not fear the involvement of the public, Mr Pritchard said. They would do an excellent job and bring a desirable measure of objectivity.

"I don't believe for one moment we should resist the introduction of a lay element. I believe it will come".

Under pressure to reform its complaints procedures, the Law Society of England and Wales is considering including laymen after the Glanville Davies affair, which involved a solicitor who was struck off for gross professional misconduct after over-charging a client by £131,000.

The society's own internal report on the affair condemned its handling of the case as a "disgrace".

Under plans to be considered at the society's next council meeting in April, it is proposed that two laymen and two solicitors who are not council members should be brought in to provide an independent element in the investigation of complaints.

It is also suggested that a national scheme be set up, possibly through local law societies, in which solicitors would be specially assigned to interview complainants and advise them.

House prices rise by 14% a year

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

House prices in Britain are rising at an annual rate of 14 per cent compared with an increase of 12 per cent for last year, the Nationwide Building Society announced yesterday.

Its latest house price index shows that the annual increase remains well ahead of the estimated rise in retail prices (5 per cent) and annual earnings (7 per cent).

In the first quarter of this year, before the effects of the reduction in the mortgage rate and Budget changes could be felt, house prices in Britain increased on average by 3.5 per cent.

The average price of all properties has risen to £29,690.

During the first quarter there was a 1 per cent reduction in prices recorded in Scotland and no change in the northern region of England, while the West Midlands and outer metropolitan area showed an increase of 4 per cent and Greater London and the outer South-east an increase of 5 per cent.

DETACHED HOUSE AVERAGE PRICES, JANUARY – MARCH 1984

	Modern £	Older £
Scotland	36,310	34,300
N Ireland	33,620	*
North	35,340	*
North-West	37,340	40,250
Yorks, Humberside	34,980	36,710
Wales	36,280	32,150
West Midlands	36,250	39,290
East Midlands	33,750	30,970
East Anglia	39,720	44,050
South-West	42,720	43,520
Outer Sout-East	48,130	52,630
Outer Metropolitan	61,820	64,870
Greater London	68,810	65,510
United Kingdom	42,000	44,760

* Insufficient sample

'Gay Jesus' hint in film condemned

Leading churchmen and religious historians condemned a new television series to be shown on Channel 4 next month which implies that Jesus could have been a homosexual. They claim the three-part series, called *Jesus – The Evidence*, and made by London Weekend Television, is distorted and unreliable.

The series also asks questions such as: did Jesus exist? Did the miracles ever happen and could the healing miracles be explained by hypnosis? Did Jesus rise from the dead? and, did Matthew, Mark, Luke and John really write the gospels?

The three hour-long programmes will go out on Sundays from April 8, but already they are causing a furore in church circles. So far, more than 40 leading theologians and church leaders have signed a joint statement strongly regretting the imbalance in the LWT series.

The series' production team said yesterday that there would be a wide-ranging televised debate when the series ended so that protesters could put their case and points of view.

Ronay laments lack of first-rate pubs

"Pub crawling" is a dispiriting business for Egon Ronay's inspectors. For the grand inquisitor's *1984 Guinness Pub Guide*, published today, they made their way to more than 2,700 recommended hostelries and found only 947, just over a third, that they thought worthy of inclusion.

"The sad truth is that we have to keep digging even more deeply and widely with very poor results", Mr Ronay laments. "The wafer-thin coverage of certain areas is not our fault but that of the pubs."

So it is that the home of Newcastle Brown is judged to have but one public house worth mentioning. Even then it fares better than much of Yorkshire, the supposed home of good beer. Bradford, Leeds, and Sheffield are all judged deviod of commendable public houses, and so are Keighley, Halifax, Dewsbury, Barnsley, Doncaster, and Scunthorpe.

In London, the Ronay inspectorate tested 62 public houses newly recommended to them, but only eight were thought worth an entry.

Mr Ronay judges public houses more by the food they serve than the beer, but says that the importance of food sales in public houses is greater than ever.

Nearly nine-tenths of the public houses included in the book said that they would not be financially viable without the sale of food. Two thirds said that more than three quarters of the food they served was "home-made", but elsewhere, Mr Ronay says, that phrase was used to describe "a few salad leaves lying limply in the contents of some convenience pack".

Some recommended public houses serve bar food that is not just very good but "exquisite", Mr Ronay says, producing dishes that would be worthy of starred restaurants in his *Hotel and Restaurant Guide*.

The Rhydspence Inn at Whitney-on-Wye is chosen as Pub of the Year, commended for "charming accommodation, marvellous bar food, and authentic atmosphere".

Egon Ronay's Guinness Pub Guide 1984 to Food and Accommodation. (Mitchell Beazley, £3.95).

Royal Court day of decision

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

Theatrical luminaries of the stature of Samuel Beckett, Sir Michael Redgrave, and Sir Peter Hall have set themselves in the ranks of its supporters, but the Royal Court Theatre reamains pessimistic about the fate which will be outlined to it today.

The theatre, home of the English Stage Company for 28 years, is likely to be one of the best known names on the list of grants cuts announced by the Arts Council as part of a policy of shifting funds from London to the regions.

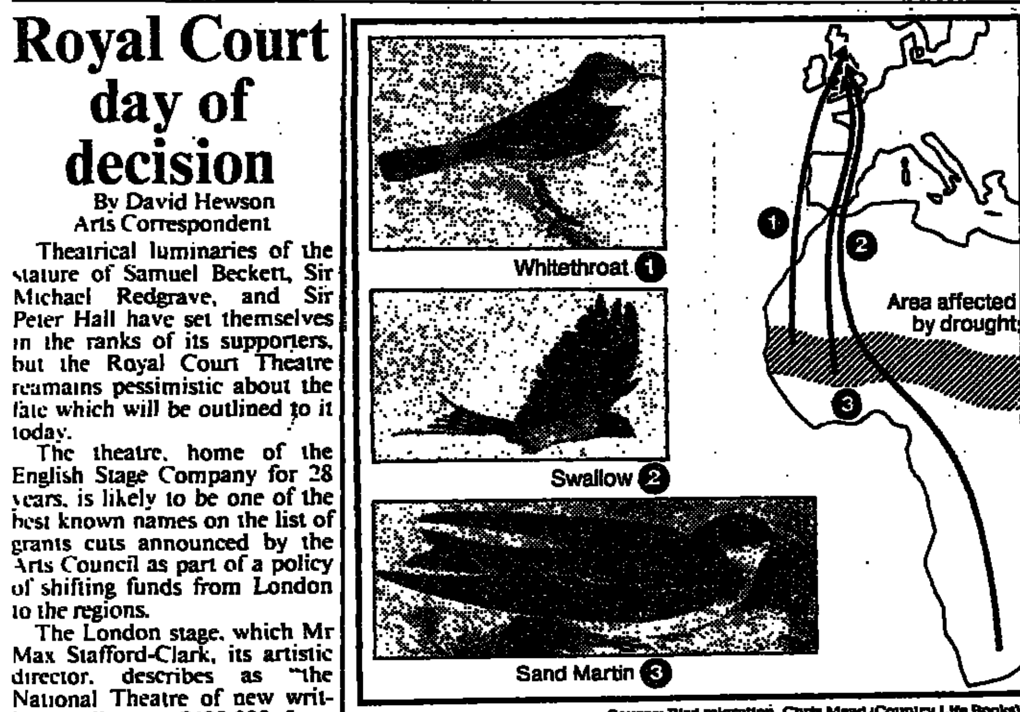
The London stage, which Mr Max Stafford-Clark, its artistic director, describes as "the National Theatre of new writing", relies on £483,000 from the council and £21,000 from the Greater London Council. If the Arts Council grant disappears or is cut substantially, a number of members of the council's own advisory drama panel are expected to resign in protest at the action.

With the abolition of the GLC threatening what remains of the theatre's income, the prospect of closure seems greater than at any period in the company's history, though there are those who are convinced that a last-minute deal will emerge to enable it to survive.

In recent years, the Royal Court has cut its main-hall productions from eight or nine a year to four, and its small upstairs hall from eight or nine to three so that it can live within its grants.

It attracts average audiences of 55 per cent capacity, and expects to make a small surplus this year through the popularity of its most recent play, *Tom and Viv*.

Mr Stafford-Clark yesterday: Fate in balance.





Source: Bird migration, Chris Mead (Country Life Books).

Drought takes toll of migrant birds

By Kenneth Gosling

Severe drought south of the Sahara, which has brought starvation and misery to thousands of Africans, is expected to have a marked effect this spring on the number of birds returning to Britain after wintering in the area.

"Our understanding is that this winter's drought has been worse than any other over the last 50 years", Mr Chris Mead, ringing officer of the British Trust for Ornithology, said yesterday.

Among species worst affected are the swallow, whitethroat, sedge warbler, redstart and sand martin.

Oxfam has asked the trust for all the information it has in order to aid its own efforts in the area.

During the last severe drought in the late 1960s the bird populations which are expected to be affected again, were depleted by about two thirds. The whitethroat population has recovered only slightly.

"Global weather patterns are the problem", Mr Mead said.

"The Sahel drought has happened on and off over a long time. The Sahara has got bigger anyway and climatic changes are causing this increasing spread southwards and affecting the human population as well".

Football ban on mud attack boy

A committee chaired by a Justice of the Peace has banned Anthony Green, aged 11, of Bowland Crescent, Dunstable, from playing football until 1985. He threw mud at a referee and his friend, Paul Quinn, who owned up to calling the official a "walley" was suspended until just before the beginning of next season.

The sentences, imposed, by Bedfordshire Football Association, have been described as savage by the boys league. An appeal is planned to the Football Association

The incident happened in the changing room after Dunstable Dynamo 11-year-olds lost 5-2 to Lewsey Centre in a Chiltern League game. The club was asked to name the culprits, but no one came forward until the team was threatened with suspension.

Lawyers ordered to be struck off

The Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal in London yesterday ordered five solicitors to be struck off the Roll of Solicitors.

They were David Edgar Abbott Cooke, of London, Peter Robert Madge, of Cardiff, Giles Adrian Estler, of Long Crendon, Buckinghamshire, Thomas James Stuart Cook, of Christchurch, Dorset, and Christopher Anthony Goddard, of Colchester, Essex.

Teachers warned about cane

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Head teachers in primary and secondary schools were advised yesterday by one of their unions to use the cane less and often to move towards its eventual abolition.

New guidelines on discipline, issued by the National Association of Head Teachers, which has more than 20,000 members, also say that it is highly inadvisable for men to administer corporal punishment to girls.

"Under no circumstances should corporal punishment be administered to girls from the age of puberty upwards, except on the hand", the association says. "In the case of girls below the age of puberty, the punishment administered should be only such as would be used by a reasonable and caring parent".

The advice comes at a time of confusion in schools about the subject. The European Court of Human Rights has ruled that children may not be beaten against their parents' wishes. As a result, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, issued a White Paper saying that parents' wishes must be respected but rejecting a complete ban.

However, the law has not yet been changed so teachers are technically still able to wield the cane. Yesterday, leaders of the association said it would have been much better if Sir Keith had outlawed corporal punishment because the European Court was bound to do so.

"The Secretary of State should have the courage of his convictions and ban it", Mr John Swallow, president of the association and head of Ongar School in Essex, said.

Mr David Hart, the association's general secretary, said Sir Keith should have set a date for the abolition of corporal punishment and in the meantime have consulred on staffing and resources in order to affect such a decision. "I think he should still do this", Mr Hart said.

The association states that only a small minority of heads still use the cane. Its advice to members contains tips on discipline which it says should always concentrate on encouragement and praise rather than on criticis, and punishment.

PARLIAMENT March 29 1984

Miners must be enabled to go to work

COAL DISPUTE

The overwhelming majority of British people, except the Labour Party, supported police action against miners pickets, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, said during question time in the Commons.

She added that it was an upside down world in which Opposition MPs blamed the police for enabling law-abiding miners to go to work while endorsing the action of those who attempted to prevent them going to work.

She described as "nonsense" a claim by one Labour MP that her Government's policies were bound to produce unrest throughout the country.

Mr Anthony Favell (Stockport, C) started the exchanges when he said: Did the Prime Minister see on television this morning Mr Eric Heffer, the chairman of the Labour Party give his support to mass pickets?

Would she assure those miners wanting to work and produce coal at a price which people can afford, that they have the support and the respect of the vast majority of this nation? (Loud Conservative cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: I wholly agree that those miners who want to go to their work in order to produce coal which has a great future, because that industry has a great future, must be enabled to go about their law abiding duties peacefully.

I believe the overwhelming majority of people in this country, except perhaps the Labour Party, are behind the police in the excellent work they are doing.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): It is clear when one looks at the situation in London Transport yesterday, the marches and demonstrations in London today and what is happening in Liverpool and throughout with working people generally – (Conservative laughter) – that the draconian policies of this Government are pregnant with violence and an election of a Tory Government of this type is bound to produce unrest throughout the community.

Mrs Thatcher: Nonsense. In respect of the action by London Transport yesterday, most commuters were determined to get to work and did so. (Loud Conservative cheers)

Mr Michael Hirst (Strathkelvin and Bearsden, C): Has she seen reports of the speech made last week by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition to the National Federation of Self-Employed in which he recognised the importance of small business?



Flannery: Policies bound to produce unrest.

His apparent conversion would sound less opportunist and more convincing if his side of the House was prepared to recognise and welcome the many measures in this year's Budget for assisting small business.

Mrs Thatcher: Not only is the budget designed to help small business; it is designed to assist all business, particularly in taking off the National Insurance surcharge, which Labour put on in the first place.

Mrs Angela Rumbold (Mitcham and Morden, C): The day of disruption we had yesterday in London caused by striking London Transport workers caused not only disruption to the people trying to get to work but great damage to the capital's commercial and industrial life.

Mrs Thatcher: Those who embarked upon that day of disruption are not concerned with the commercial success of our capital. Most people were determined to see it was business as usual.

Thatcher's EEC ideals yet to be achieved

EUROPE

There were still very great differences between Britain and her European Community partners to be resolved, **Mrs Margaret Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions in responding to **Dr David Owen**, Leader of the SDP, who asked what was the narrow divide that still existed between what Mrs Thatcher felt was vital for Britain and what she felt was reasonable to ask from the other EEC members.

Some people (said Dr Owen) would find it easier to understand her ideals for the EEC if every now and then they got the feeling that she was prepared to listen a bit more to some of the other European leaders.

Mrs Thatcher: By even asking that question, he indicates he does not understand the kind of negotiations we were having on the Community budget.

They are about two things. First, a continuous system which well endure for a long time. That system has been difficult to negotiate.

Second, they are about the starting figure for that system which would determine what would happen in the future.

There are still great differences between us to be resolved. They are not possible to quantify, as Dr Owen would know if he understood the negotiations we are carrying out.

Mr Enoch Powell, (Down; South, OUP): When the Prime Minister reflects upon the point which has been reached between the UK and the rest of the EEC, will she bear in mind that when grave issues and fundamental differences are up for resolution, nothing is commoner than for the issue to be disguised as if it were a quarrel about details and small sums of money, such as a litle, local difficulty over £50m?

Mrs Thatcher: It is in money terms about a great deal more than that. It is about the whole system and a permanent system and getting a fundamentally equitable system of sharing the burdens of financing the Common Market.

I agree with him it is about even more than that. Many of us had far greater ideals for the EEC than have yet been achieved. We shall continue to work at them. We believe other matters, financial and agricultural, have to be settled first.

● **Mr Ian Stewart,** Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said in a Commons written answer that the UK's net payments to the EEC from January 1, 1973 to December 31, 1983, taking into account refunds received, amounted to £4,777m.

Difficult decisions facing dairy industry

AGRICULTURE

Nobody could be happy about the prospects facing the dairy industry but difficult decisions had to be taken. The European Community could not continue overproducing so much milk, **Mr Michael Jopling**, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during Commons questions.

He added that the industry would have a difficult time ahead and the Government would be issuing guidance as soon as possible and offering what help it could when the EEC directives on cutting milk production were finalized.

Mr Robert Atkins (South Ribble, C) asked Mr Jopling to make transitional arrangements for dairy farmers in the proposed cut in milk production. He said the industry faced a cut of 10 per cent in production and incomes and needed special hardship compensation over a transitional period.

Mr Jopling: The agreement on restraining milk production provides for a transitional year in 1984/85 when the guaranteed quantity free of levy will be set at 98.2m tonnes. In 1985/86 the quantity will fall to 97.2m tonnes.

The cut implicit in the transitional year about to begin is slightly over 6 per cent and not 10 per cent. As for compensation, he should remember that one of the reasons why we are having to take such difficult steps is because the EEC has no more money at the moment.

Mr Thomas Torney (Bradford South, Lab): Will he confirm that as usual in the UK we will monitor the cuts in production and the super levy? Would he not agree that other member countries are not so eager to do that? Will he ensure that the Community sets up proper arrangements to monitor and administer the super levy in other countries as well as in the UK?

Mr Jopling: I recognize what he says and can say that all the sales of milk are covered by the levy system without any exemption such as off-farm sales.

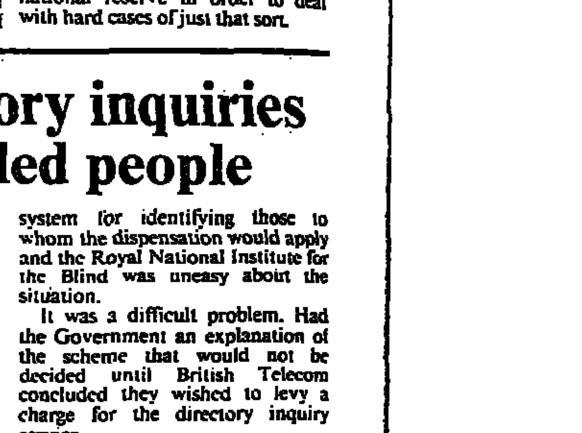
In discussions on the detailed application, we will ensure that they are implemented throughout the Community. He should consider there is the new weapon of disallowance which the Commission is becoming more and more accustomed to use.

Mr Colin Shepherd (Hereford, C) asked what quota arrangements had been made since the system started next Monday and there was considerable uncertainty in the dairy industry.

Mr Jopling: We are currently having urgent talks with the industry about the implementation of measures. Urgent talks are also taking place in Brussels in the Special Committee on Agriculture. I expect when I return to Brussels tomorrow and Saturday we will be discussing again the measures to implement the scheme.

Sir Paul Hawkins (Norfolk South West, C): The dairy farmers have had three years of warning of the great increase in the mountains of butter and dairy produce and therefore the call by the NFU president for a three-year phasing-in should be considered in relation to this.

Mr Jopling: It is true that the figure of 97.2m tonnes which is the standard quantity we are working to in the Community is the figure produced in 1981 plus 1 per cent. It is on that basis that the whole thing has been put. Warnings were issued and the guaranteed threshold was introduced to try to create a weapon to deal with overproduction.



Hawkins: Three years of warning.

Mr Gavin Strang (Edinburgh East, Lab): Since the Irish Government has made clear it is not going to accept proposals, is his policy still to try to secure agreement on these proposals or use the opportunity to achieve a less severe effect on our dairy industry?

Mr Jopling: I have made clear that the Irish demand for a future extension of milk production to be taken into account is unacceptable and so it is.

Mr Geraint Howells (Ceredigion and Pembroke North, L) asked if the minister would agree to the request of the dairy producers and members of the NFU that they should be given three years to adjust their farming methods. If he did not agree, many farmers might be made bankrupt.

Mr Jopling: It would not have been realistic to have a three year transitional period. The NFU asked for that and we negotiated one year. It is necessary for the dairy industry to grapple with the difficulties of over-supply and the massive over-production and surpluses which exist in the EEC.

I hope, given the one year transitional period, that this will be of help in easing the difficult decisions which have to be taken straightaway.

Mr Antony Marlow (Northampton North, C): Why are we, who are not self-sufficient in milk products, taking two and half times the cut in dairy products of the French who the biggest surpluses in Europe? Could he not fight a little harder for Britain.

Mr Jopling: In 1982 we reached 131 per cent self sufficiency in solids non-fat and 100 per cent self sufficiency in butter fat, taking New Zealand imports into account.

Mr Charles Morrison (Devizes, C): Will he take account of the situation facing those farmers in the middle of expansion, having already invested money in new buildings? They are now in considerable difficulties.

Mr Jopling: We are keeping a national reserve in order to deal with hard cases of just that sort.

MP complains about police questioning

POLICE

A Labour MP said it had been reported to him that the police had asked miners how they had voted in the last election and how they would have voted if there had been only Conservative and Communist parties to choose between.

Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse (Pontefract and Castleford, Lab) seeking an emergency debate, said that the National Union of Mineworkers branch secretary at Kellingley Colliery in his constituency had told him last night about the police questioning of his constituents.

A Conservative MP said that he did not believe it and **Mr Lofthouse** said that that was why he thought it important and necessary that the House should hear about it direct, rather than through the press.

Mr Lofthouse said that his constituents were taken to Mansfield Police Station on Tuesday, photographed and interviewed by plain clothes officers.

He had been told that they had also been asked how they had voted in the election of the President of the NUM (Mr Arthur Scargill). They had been asked several questions about the local NUM branch secretary at Kellingley. They had also been asked a silly question about whether they knew that Mr Scargill drove round in a Jaguar.

I am not a police basher (he said) and I believe that policemen are playing their part in maintaining law and order. They have a job to do and have undoubtedly been doing it and certainly have been doing it under instructions, but it must give the House and country great concern if these allegations are true.

I am not in a position to say that they are. It was in the interest of the House that the truth should come out, for the benefit of the police and of the men questioned. None of them wanted to see a situation of anarchy and it was time there was an investigation.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said that Mr Lofthouse had made serious allegations but the matter was not appropiate for discussion under the rule about emergency debates.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab) said later that opportunities to discuss the serious situation in the Yorkshire-Nottinghamshire coalfield were limited and he asked that next Thursday's debate on the Easter adjournment should be extended to allow for such a discussion.

The Speaker said the debate was limited to three hours.

Mr Albert McQuarrie, (Banff and Buchan, C) suggested that Mr Lofthouse should repeat his allegations outside the House or report them to the Chief Constable so that there could be a full investigation.



Lofthouse: I am not a police basher.

Mr Lofthouse said that some of the men had repeated the statements on television . He was not personally saying that the questions had been asked but was telling the House the men had had the questions put to them.

● **Mr Patrick Jenkin,** Secretary of State for the Environment, said in a Commons written reply that in response to representations from Nottinghamshire County Council, other local authorities and a number of Conservative MPs from Nottinghamshire seats, he proposed to exempt from holdback the additional part of a local authority's expenditure in 1983-84 which arose from the policing of the miners' industrial action.

Ratepayers suffering oppression

SPENDING

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, announced in the Commons that figures produced that day showed that real personal disposable income in 1983 was three per cent above the fourth quarter of 1982. That was higher than at any time under Labour, she said in reply to questions by **Mr Neil Kinnock,** Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Kinnock, in the exchanges, said: Does she stand for town hall not Whitehall and accept the freedom of local government as one of the twin pillars of our constitution?

If she does, why is she capping cutting and centralising local government on a scale that is utterly incompatible with any realistic notion of democracy in the locality, for the locality and by the locality?

Mrs Thatcher: It is the Government's duty to be in charge of the economy and public expenditure of this country and to be in charge of the overall level of taxation levied upon our citizens. It is a traditional role of Parliament to protect the citizen.

There is not the slightest shadow of doubt that there is oppression of ratepayers by the large amount of rates that have been levied because of high public expenditure. That view was endorsed last night by a majority of 125.

Mr Kinnock: As it is the Prime Minister's responsibility to be aware of the overall level of taxation, why is her Government levying more tax than any other Government in British history?

If the Government is responsible for the citizen, why is she inroducing and adopting powers that mean that cuts in services inflict deprevation and disadvantage and even danger on the weakest people in our community?

Mrs Thatcher: Local government is spending well above the Government target. If they are in fact choosing to cut on some of the weakest sections, it is up to the local people to say what they choose to spend on.

Two days for Bill on London Transport

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Trade Union Bill, completion of report stage.

Tuesday: Debate on Opposition motion on investment in education. Debate on current negotiations in the EEC.

Wednesday and Thursday: London Regional Transport Bill, progress on remaining stages.

Friday: Private Members' Bills: Childs Abduction Bill, remaining stages. Immigration Offences (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Video Recordings Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: London Docklands Railway Bill, third reading. Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, report. Straw and Stubble Burning Prohibition Bill, committee.

Wednesday: Debate on interest rates.

Thursday: Housing and Building Control Bill, third reading. Debate on a fixed date for Easter.

Jopling defends EEC milk arrangements

FARM PRICES

The settlement on milk in the EEC farm price negotiations was much more satisfactory to British farmers than it would have been had other Governments had had their way, **Mr Jopling,** Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said

Although there will be difficulties for milk producers throughout the whole Community (he added) British milk producers will not be discriminated against.

Sir Peter Emery (Honiton, C) had asked Mr Jopling to point out to many people that the settlement he was negotiating was likely, for small farmers, to allow a greater degree of flexibililty for alteration than for the large producer.

The noises made by the NFU and many small farmers (he continued) is on the whole for the benefit of large producers. What Mr Jopling has achieved is much better than most people realize.

Mr Michael Latham (Rutland and Melton, C): Since the strain of another proposed farm price settlement seems likely to be taken by the livestock producers, can MPs be sure that Mr Jopling will not give one inch over retention of the beef premium?

Mr Jopling: I have made clear to the Council of Ministers that it is essential for the beef premium to continue.

Mr Bryan Gould (Dagenham, Lab) asked Mr Jopling how close he was to the sort of fundamental reform of the common agricultural policy which the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Sir Geoffrey Howe) had laid down as a precondition for an increase in own resources.

Mr Jopling: We have a number of reservations on the proposals made about the Irish milk quota, the settlement on the monetary compensatory amounts, the beef premium system and on sheepmeat.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) asked why the irresponsibility and inaction of successive governments of Britain and those elsewhere within the EEC should be borne by the livestock and dairy sector of the UK.

Why, when Britain joined the Community, should Britain be expected to take as part of her quota the full amount of butter coming from New Zealand?

Mr Jopling: He would be wrong to suggest that the burden of the arrangements will fall on Britain.

Throughout the Community one finds that farmers are dissatisfied. The leader of the main French farmers' union had said yesterday that the French Government had yielded too much and that France's partners in the EEC had not accepted the same sacrifices.

Mr Eric Deakins (Walthamstow, Lab) asked how the cost of the proposed agriculture package would compare with that for the current year. If it was likely to be higher, how could Mr Jopling square that with the Prime Minister's assurance two weeks ago that, as a precondition for agreeing on budgetary reform and increase in own resources, agricultural spending would have to be cut?

Mr Jopling: Whether or not the cost of the CAP in 1984 exceeds the Budget remains to be seen because market circumstances could yet change. If necessary, cost saving measures would have to be taken later in the year as they were last year.

● The EEC Commission is to discuss cod quotas with the Norwegians before the next meeting of the Council of Fisheries Ministers on May 24, **Mr John MacGregor,** Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in the Commons.

Mr Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby, Lab) had asked what proposal there was for relaxing the full rigour of a cod quota which meant that Grimsby vessel catching more than 125 tonnes had to stay in dock until next week to unload an quota of cod.

What proposal is there (he added) for negotiating an extra supply of cod with Norway?

Mr MacGregor: We have a commitment from the Commission to do all they can in discussions with Norway.

Free directory inquiries for disabled people

TELECOM BILL

Should British Telecom decide to levy a charge for use of the directory inquiries service, the Government would take action to see that the blind and disabled who could not use telephone directories, would not be at a financial disadvantage, **Lord Glenarthur,** Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Services and the Government spokesman said during the third reading of the Telecommunications Bill in the Lords.

He moved an amendment which, was agreed that a licence should include a condition requiring that directory information serices should be provided without charge for subscribers who were blind or otherwise disabled.

He said that the amendment had been made in response to concern expressed during the report stage of the Bill, that such protection should be made statutory.

Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran (L) said no one had yet produced a satisfactory system for identifying those to whom the dispensation would apply and the Royal National Institute for the Blind was uneasy about the situation.

It was a difficult problem. Had the Government an explanation of the scheme that would not be decided until British Telecom concluded they wished to levy a charge for the directory inquiry service.

Trespass Bill

The Criminal Trespass Bill which makes it an offence in England and Wales, in certain circumstances, to enter as a trespasser any building in which a person has his home, or other living accommodation, or any part of such a building, was read the third time in the House of Lords and passed.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Juries (Disqualification) Bill, third reading. Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill, remaining stages.

Power of last resort to curb rate burden

SCOTLAND

An Opposition attempt to narrow proposed powers to limit Scottish rates and spending was rejected by 245 votes to 151 – Government majority 94, during the report stage in the Commons of the Rating and Valuation (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill. **Mr Donald Dewar,** chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, moved a new clause to restrict the Secretary of State's power to control rates so that no order would be made against any authority whose spending had not risen in real terms in the immediately preceding financial year.

He said this was a last attempt to strike at one of the obnoxious and resented parts of the Bill. The new clause contained a thoroughly reasonable proposition because the power to make an order should be used only sparingly.

The Bill was pointless overkill and that was why a restriction was needed.

We are in (he added) for a touch of the bullyboy tactics. We will get, if not literally at least metaphorically, civil war between St Andrew's House and the regional councils.

We cannot for the life of us see why we need a further layer of oppressive legislation.

Mr Michael Ancram, Under Secretary of State for Scotland said local authority expenditure amounted to a quarter of all public spending.

It made sense for the Government to have this reserve power to be used as a last resort to bring local authority rates and spending into line with the Government's plans.

Plea to Kinnock over rebuff to Euro MP

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Labour MPs sponsored by the Co-operative Party are to seek a meeting with Mr Neil Kinnock to voice grave anxiety over the decision of the party's national executive to refuse to hold an inquiry into the defeat of Mr Brian Key, the sitting Labour Euro MP for South Yorkshire, at his reselection conference.

The defeat earlier this month of Mr Key, who is sponsored by the Co-operative Party and a pro-Marketeer, by Mr Norman West, the candidate proposed by the National Union of Mineworkers and an anti-Marketeer, led to complaints to the Labour Party's national executive of irregularities in the selection process. The miners' union was accused of packing the reselection conference.

But the executive decided on Wednesday by 16 votes to 12 against holding an inquiry. Both Mr Kinnock and Mr Roy Hattersley, the deputy leader, were on the losing side.

Mr David Hughes, the national agent, told the executive in a confidential paper that correspondence had been received from party officers and members in the Euro seat saying that five of the eight constituency parties in it nominated Mr Key, which was not reflected in the voting at the selection conference.

Mr David Hughes: Confidential paper.

He also said that there was "substance" to the challenge to the selection process that a preselection "caucus" took place to determine how votes should be cast.

It is to call a meeting between its leaders and Labour leaders to consider the 1958 agreement between the two parties, which defines their relationship, including the number of Labour candidates the Co-op is allowed to sponsor.

At present there are seven Labour MPs backed by the Co-op, which has also made £15,000 annual donations to the party in recent years. Any threat to the agreement would be viewed seriously on either side.

In a private letter to the executive Mr David Wise, secretary of the Co-operative Union, alleged that some constituency delegations to the selection conference were unrepresentative, with trade union delegates claiming a larger proportion of places than their strength on the general management committee entitled them to.

He alleged that tactics were employed to ensure that local party representatives consisted of NUM nominees, that a preselection caucus took place.

Coroner sums up at Davey inquest

The coroner at the inquest into the death of James Davey, whose life-support system was switched off 11 days after he was involved in a struggle at a police station last March, told the jury yesterday that inconsidering a possible verdict of unlawful killing it must weigh the consequences of Mr Davey's excitement and tenseness.

Mr Charles Kenderdine, the Coventry coroner, summing up, said that much depended on the amount of force used, particularly on Mr Davey's neck, to restrain him.

He said that the jury had to decide how, when, and where Mr Davey died and if anyone was responsible. It had to distinguish between accidental death or an unlawful killing.

Mr Davey, aged 40, of Starley Road, Coventry, had been taken to Coventry police station for questioning in connexion with inquiries into a gangland murder in London. He said that he had an alibi and was not prepared to go to London.

Mr Kenderdine told the jury that there was a suggestion in cross-examination of witnesses that those officers involved in the the struggle, knowing of Mr Davey's long record of crime and violence, were perhaps "somewhat fearing their own safety or were perhaps moved by some sort of revenge or victimization".

The inquest was adjourned for the jury to consider its verdict.

Pardon not acquittal court rules

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

A person convicted of a crime and later pardoned is not necessarily acquitted of the offence, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

The royal pardon, which is given on the Home Secretary's recommendation, only removes "the pain of punishment", Lord Justice Watkins, with Lord Justice May and Mrs Justice Butler Sloss, ruled.

Lord Justice Watkins was giving the court's reasons for its ruling earlier this week in the case of Mr Barry Foster, aged 37, a man of low intelligence who was sent to a mental hospital after admitting sex crimes he could not possibly have committed.

The court held that his pardon in 1982, four years after he was sent to Rampton for rape and attempted rape, did not automatically have the effect of quashing the convictions.

In the case of Mr Foster, however, the judges said the convictions should be quashed after hearing that another man had confessed to the offences and had been jailed for life in 1981.

Lord Justice Watkins said that Mr Foster, who comes from Nottingham, was plainly innocent and his convictions obviously unsafe.

The great majority of pardons are for non-custodial offences. Since 1979, there have been 811 pardons for non-custodial offences, mainly summary offences; and on average one a year for custodial with one each in 1981 and 1982.

The commonest reason for a pardon is that the offence was found technically to have been impossible



Sheffield steel: Captain Sam Salt (left) and Captain David Hart-Dyke at the laying of the keel (in the air) for a new HMS Sheffield to replace the ship lost in the Falklands conflict.

Cathedral burial for Mary Rose victim

A special burial for the 700 members of the crew of the Mary Rose, the Tudor warship that sank in the Solent 439 years ago will be held at Portsmouth Cathedral on July 19, the anniversay of the sinking. The bones of one of the victims, recovered from the hull during excavation work, will be interred at the cathedral under a simple slab of Welsh slate bearing a Tudor rose. Other human remains will be laid to rest at the Royal Naval Hospital at Gosport, Hampshire.

The Provost of Portsmouth, the Very Rev. David Stancliffe, and the Chief Executive of the Mary Rose Trust have spent two years deliberating over the form of the service.

Report on Ulster

Tory MEPs told to abstain in vote

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

A report that aims to increase EEC aid and involvement in Northern Ireland was passed yesterday by the European Parliament after a passionate debate which highlighted for non-British Euro-MPs the deep differences that exist on each side of the province's border.

The British Conservative group, to its obvious discomfort, was under strict orders from Downing Street to abstain. Sir Frederick Catherwood, a senior member of the group, urged the widest support for it, adding: "It is my personal sorrow that I cannot in fact vote for it."

Lady Elles, the group's spokesman on the subject, said: "We fundamentally object to the principle of having a report at all." It was only thanks to skilful drafting of the report by a Danish Liberal, Mr Niels Haagerup, that the group was not going to vote against it.

According to the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, the report was an "ill informed, biased piece of republican propaganda. On behalf of the people I represent, I repudiate it."

He saw it as intruding into Britain's domestic affairs in its call for the governments of Britain and the Irish Republic to introduce a power-sharing politial system. "There will never be a day when the Protestants will want to put their necks under the heel of a Dublin government", he added.

Introducing his report, Mr Haagerup said: "We cannot remain indifferent to a situation where not only economic and social conditions but even more so, political, religious, and indeed historical factors breed violence ... When it comes to violence this Parliament ceased to be neutral and impartial."

Mr TJ Maher, an Irish Republic Independent member, told Mr Paisley that he was "probably the best recruiting agent the IRA has". Mr Paisley flung back the instult. He had followed too many coffins in Northern Ireland, seen too much brutality, butchery, and bloodshed to let anyone accuse him of causing violence.

Another Irish Republic Independent member, Mr Neil Blaney, told the Conservative group: "You have tried every type of approach except to make up your minds to ... get out and leave it to the Irish to settle the matter between themselves. There will be no bloodshed and we can mind our own business if we are left to do so."

Mr John Hume, the SDLP leader, bemoaned he fact "that we have come to the stage where it has been necessary to build a brick wall to separate Catholics from Protestants and that that brick wall is called a 'peace line'. That wall is an indictment of everyone."

He blamed the British Government, as well as Roman Catholics and Protestants, for giving a unilateral guarantee to one section of the community, "a guarantee that runs right to the heart of the problem".

People could not be united at the point of a gun, he said. Irish patriotism was better served by spilling sweat than spilling blood. Violence was affront to the real meaning of the Irish flag, "the white flag of peace between the orange and the green."

هكذا من الأصل

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Sometimes, it may need three or four issues before the habit takes.
But when it does, just look how far it can take you.

The Economist

Mitterrand cuts jobs in crisis hit industries but more may have to go

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Braving increasing unrest among the unions, the French Government yesterday approved plans involving substantial cutbacks in the crisis-ridden steel, coal and shipbuilding industries. Observers still wonder whether the cuts are big enough, however.

In the steel industry, for example, the Government had announced job losses of 20,000, representing one-fifth of the total workforce, by 1987, whereas it had been estimated that at least 30,000 jobs have to be shed over the next couple of years if the industry was to balance its books by the end of 1985 under EEC directives.

Steel production has already been cut by more than a third over the last decade, and the workforce has been cut by a similar amount, but the industry still made a loss of more than 10 billion francs (£870m) last year.

When the Socialists first came to power, they announced plans to invest 17.5 billion francs in the steel industry, cut 11,000 jobs and increase production to 24 million tons by 1986. In fact, production last year totalled less than 18 million tons and is due to fall even further. Hence the bitter feelings of betrayal and anger among the workers.

President Mitterrand himself was left to take the unenviable decision at yesterday's Cabinet meeting to abandon the 1.3 billion franc plans for the construction of a universal rolling mill at Grandrange in Lorraine.

The Cabinet had been split down the middle on the issue, with M Laurent Fabius, the Industry Minister, and the Communist ministers firmly backing the project, and M Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, and M Pierre Mauroy, the prime minister, equally firmly against it.

Feelings are running particularly high in Lorraine, an area of high unemployment heavily dependent on its declining steel and coal industries. On Wednesday all the unions representing the steel workers in the area called out their members on strike, the first time such joint action had been taken since 1979.

Violence broke out at Longwy-Haut in Lorraine yesterday, as about 200 steel workers ransacked the new tax office in the town after breaking through the iron railings and dumping a lorryload of tar at the entrance.

After price increases of 1.4 per cent for the first two months of this year, M Delors admitted earlier this week that the Government was now unlikely to reach its target of 5 per cent inflation for the whole of the year. He is now talking of 6 per cent. That will inevitably have serious repercussions for the Government's "guidelines" for a wage rise of no more than 5 per cent this year.

Further trouble with the unions is likely to arise from the recent "admission" by M Jack Ralite, Communist Minister for Employment, that the number of unemployed could rise by 600,000 to a total of 2.6 million by the end of the year if the rise in unemployment over the past two months continued at its present rate.

For coal, the Cabinet confirmed the Government's decision to maintain public aid to the industry at 6.5 billion francs for the next five years, which will mean a substantial cut in real terms and marks a complete reversal of the Government's earlier policy.

In shipbuilding, the Cabinet confirmed the Government's promise to keep open all five yards, but to reduce their production capacity by 30 per cent over the next two years.



Peace Watch: A Lebanese policeman talking to French soldiers at Beirut's 'Green line'.

French troops hand over to truce force

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Lebanese police and white-helmeted French truce observers began taking over posts along the "Green Line" dividing east and west Beirut yesterday after a new committee began work on bringing about a true ceasefire in the Lebanese capital.

A round of handshaking marked the take-over of positions from departing French soldiers who are the remnants of the multinational force that once included British, Italian and American contingents.

But amid the ceremony at Beirut's battered race track occasional bursts of gunfire could be heard, making clear that at least some of the Muslim and Christian militiamen who have been fighting off-and-on for nine years were not yet ready for a truce.

But the scattered sniping was little compared to the heavy, random artillery fire on Wednesday that left more than 20 people dead before the "higher security-political committee" held its first meeting under the leadership of President Amin Gemayel.

The committee – made up of representatives of the Army and warring Christian, Druze and Shia militias – met for four hours yesterday. It issued a statement saying it had taken "important steps" that would soon produce results.

The force taking over from the departing French troops is made up of 40 retired French officers, Lebanese police, retired Lebanese Army and police officers, and army reservists.

The 300 Lebanese police and the French observers took over some positions, but many French soldiers remained in the area between the Christian and Muslim militias. The French force is expected to complete its withdrawal tomorrow.

The day of relative calm in Beirut came amid fresh trouble in southern Lebanon. Four Israeli soldiers were wounded in Rihane, a village near Nahatiyeh, when one of them stepped on a landmine.

Greek ship struck in Gulf

Athens (Reuter) – An Iraqi missile struck the engine room of the Greek cargo ship Iapetos at the head of the Gulf, causing fire on board, the Greek Merchant Marine Ministry said.

The 16 crew, who were unhurt, abandoned the 16,230-ton ship and were picked up by a tug.

Iraq said earlier that its Navy and Air Force had destroyed four big "enemy naval targets" in the area.

Jet crash pilots to be charged

Geneva (Reuter) – The Geneva prosecutor has brought manslaughter and bodily harm charges against two pilots of a Swiss charter jet which crashed into the sea near Madiera in 1977 with the loss of 36 lives.

The pilots are accused of breaking flight regulations, including one calling for night landings to be made only by pilots acquainted with Madiera airport.

Second plane hijacked

Miami (Reuter) – A Delta Airlines Boeing 727 with 19 passengers and seven crew arrived back in the United States after a lone hijacker diverted the plane to Cuba.

The plane, which was en route to Dallas from New Orleans, was the second United States aircraft in 36 hours forced to fly to Cuba.

Abattoir visit

Lobatse, Botswana (Reuter) – The Prince of Wales toured Africa's biggest slaughterhouse here on the fourth day of a five-day visit to Botswana, where he is inspecting projects of the Commonwealth Development Corporation, of which he is a director.

Best-seller Deng

Peking (Reuter) – Chinese bookshops last year sold 54 million copies of the selected works of Mr Deng Xiaoping, the country's effective ruler, making him China's best-selling author.

Troops seized

Bangkok (Reuter) – Thailand said it had captured 40 Vietnamese troops inside its border yesterday – the greatest number captured by Thailand in border clashes since Vietnam invaded Cambodia in 1979.

Tunis high-tech

Rome – The first African conference on computer communications, Africom, is to be held in Tunis from May 21 to 23.

Correction

Princess Alia is the daughter of King Husain of Jordan, not his sister, as stated on Wednesday in a photograph caption supplied by an agency.

Senghor made first black 'Immortal'

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris

The Academie Française, hallowed sanctuary of the 40 guardians of the French language, opened the doors of the country's most exclusive club yesterday to its first black member, M Léopold Sedar Senghor, a former French minister and President of Senegal, and a poet and writer of international renown.

President Mitterrand, in his capacity as "protector" of the Academy, attended the investiture ceremony of the newest "imortal", as the academicians are known, along with three government ministers and nearly 400 other dignitaries and guests. He was only the second French President to have attended such a ceremony.

The main task of the Academy, founded in 1635 by Louis XIII at the instigation of Cardinal Richelieu, is to keep under constant review the use of the French language, periodically producing books on French grammar and updating the first authoritative dictionary produced by the Academy in 1694.

The eighth and last edition of the dictionary was published in 1935. Work on the ninth has begun, but is proceeding at a snail's pace; the academicians have not got beyond the letter "F". The definitions are adopted during the regular Thursday meetings of the "Immortals", who include distinguished politicians, scientists, churchmen and artists, as well as literary figures.

The only requirement for an academician is French nationality.

Leopold Senghor: 'immortal'

Controversial MP: Mr Stephen Lusher, who caused an uproar in the Australian federal Parliament after saying the dole should be cut.

Jerusalem embassy ruled out by Reagan

From Mohsin Ali Washington

President Reagan has said that it would be "most unwise" for the United States to move its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and has hinted that he would veto legislation to require such a step.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and other senior officials have already voiced opposition to a move in Congress to pass a Bill calling for the transfer of the American embassy to Jerusalem. But the President's remarks, in an interview with *The New York Times* published yesterday, were the first time he has addressed the issue publicly.

Asked whether he would veto the Bill, he said: "I am saying I won't have to. But like the several previous Presidents before me, I think that this is a most unwise thing. It should never have been introduced in our Congress".

He observed that the "place of Jerusalem, the West Bank (of the Jordan River), things of this kind" must be negotiated between Israel and the Arabs. "The US has no right to put itself in a position of trying to lean one way or the other on those areas for negotiation".

Both Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart, the Democratic presidential nomination contenders, favour moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem, which Israel has proclaimed its eternal capital. Arab and other Muslim countries have strongly opposed any such move.

Mr Shultz has said publicly it would be very damaging to US interests. "It involves the old city of Jerusalem. It involves the deeply religious sites and connotations of that city. When you touch that, you touch a raw nerve running across the Muslim world".

The Bill has more than 30 sponsors in the Senate and more than 200 in the House of Representatives.

Meanwhile, the Senate foreign relations committee on Wednesday voted to guarantee Israel a minimum level of economic aid for the next several years, a commitment regarded a highly unusual in American foreign aid funding.

The committee's action in providing enough economic support each year to cover the Israeli repayment of principal and interest on previous US loans reflected the importance of the Jewish vote in a Presidential election year and growing concern over Israel's financial problems.

The committee tentatively agreed to increase economic aid to Israel to $1.2 billion (£827m) in 1985, $350m more than President Reagan's request. Israel owes the United States about $1.1 billion this year.

Challenges to Israel's leaders

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Political speculation in Israel yesterday centred on whether the standard bearers of Likud and Labour in the July 23 national elections will be the uncharismatic Mr Yitzhak Shamir and Mr Shimon Peres or whether the parties will prefer more exciting leaders.

Mr Shamir, the Prime Minister, has already been chellenged for the Likud nomination by Ariel Sharon, who nurses a grudge because Mr Shamir has refused him a government portfolio after he was ousted as Minister of Defence last year.

Mr Shamir's supporters seemed little concerned by the challenge of the one-time war hero, who was denounced by a commision of inquiry for indirect responsibility for the Phalangist massacre of Palestinians in Beirut when he was Defence Minister, but Mr Sharon has been patently restless without executive responsibilities and he indicated he might be content with assurances of a Cabinet portfolio if Likud forms a government again.

A more serious challenger would be Mr David Levy, who ran against Mr Shamir for the Likud nomination last year. An immigrant from Morocco, he is effective on the hustings among Jews from Middle East countries, who make up a large element of Likud voters.

He is considered a bigger electoral asset than Mr Shamir, but his handicap has been inexperience in foreign affairs. After his defeat for the nomination last year, he wanted the foreign affairs portfolio in the Cabinet and appeared chagrined that Mr Shamir kept it for himself.

Mr Levy has not yet announced his candidature this time but kept all his options open.

In the Labour Party, the situation may clarify today when Mr Yitzhak Navon, the former President, informs Mr Peres of his plans. Public opinion polls have indicated that Mr Navon, who had been an extraordinarily popular president, can muster the largest number of voters for Labour, but Mr Peres has pointed out that the polls recently showed Labour will win, no matter who is the standard-bearer.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of the last Labour Government and a bitter rival of Mr Peres for many years, has kept his plans to himself. An aid said he conferred with Mr Navon on Wednesday and was awaiting his decision today before deciding whether to run.

The July 23 election date was set on Wednesday by Mr Shamir and Mr Peres and requires confirmation in a Knesset legislative Act. The House ended its winter session on Wednesday night and will be convened for an extraordinary session next week for a first reading of three private members' Bills for the dissolution of Parliament, which passed their preliminary reading last Thursday.

The following week another extraordinary meeting will be held for a final reading. Some deputies said the legislature may delay the polling 24 hours because a Tuesday would be more convenient than a Monday.

Cairo cool over Libyan threat

From Alice Brinton, Cairo

President Mubarak does not appear to be unduly alarmed by Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's threat of a Libyan march on the Egyptian border.

The president told reporters yesterday in Cairo: "We don't consider what the Libyan leader said was important. We are used to his words, we are not nervous. I don't think there is any further escalation of the situation."

Earlier this month, Colonel Gaddafi called for a Libyan march on the Egyptian border to impose unity between the two countries. The march was to begin on Wednesday.

Nevertheless, the semi-official Cairo newspaper *Al-Ahram* yesterday served warning that Egypt would regard any Libyan march towards the Egyptian borders as a "flagrant and direct aggression" and "would deal with it accordingly".

In a front-page article, Mr Ibrahim Nafeh, the paper's editor, said: "A decision by one country to cross into the territory of another by force is plain aggression by all international standards." He added: "Egypt will repel such aggression."

On Wednesday Colonel Gaddafi threatened to "upset the balance" in north-east Africa unless, as he put it, the United States "withdrew" from Egypt and Sudan. He attacked both countries for calling in US Awacs surveillance aircraft.

Although President Mubarak clearly wishes to play down the Libyan threat, he did admit that the Egyptian Army was on full alert as his ally, Sudan, continued to blame Libya for the bombing raid on Omdurman, at the outskirts of Khartum, on March 16.

Egypt will certainly not strike the first blow in this battle of wills with Libya unless there is a direct attack by the Libyans. In the meantime, Egypt intends to keep a keen watch on its borders and continue to strengthen its security measures.

Meanwhile, Egypt's banished Coptic Pope, Shenouda III, has predicted that he will soon be rehabilitated. "I am sure there will be an end to this incarceration soon", he said.

The late President Sadat withdrew state recognition from Pope Shenouda and banished him to a desert monastery in September, 1981, for what he called the Pope's role in attempts to stir up sectarian trouble between Muslims and Copts.

Last April, an administrative court in Cairo confirmed Sadat's decree stripping the Pope of his temporal powers to the dismay of Egypt's Copts, who do not feel that a head of state should have the power to dismiss a patriarch elected by "the will of God."

US out to sink $100m pirates

From David Watts Singapore

The pirates of Singapore cost the British and American recording industries about $100m (£70m) a year in lost sales. And the situation has become so serious that America may seek to curb the republic's trading privileges if there is no action to scuttle the pirates.

Firms, which want to bring high-technology investment to the island, are also worried that new computer ideas may be pirated. Later this year, a delegation from the US Department of Commerce, the State Department and the Library of Congress will visit Singapore to encourage the Government to clean up the industry.

If President Reagan's visit had gone ahead last year, he would have conveyed the same message. Extension of the general system of preferences for Singapore at the end of this year could be in jeopardy.

Repeated requests from foreign governments, including a visit last year by the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, have produced little progress. A committee to review the republic's copyright laws have been sitting for months without success.

"The priates seem to have some powerful friends," one investigator said. They also appear to be determined. When an official of the British company, EMI, tried to look into their activities, he was warned off with death threats.

EMI may have to close its record-pressing plant in the republic, with the loss of 100 jobs. Profits for the legitimate makers of records and tapes are a thing of the past and the best they can hope for is to break even.

One reason for the lack of action appears to be a disagreement within the Government. The legal branch wants to improve Singapore's image, as does the Ministry of Culture, but the Minister, himself, Mr S. Dhanabalan, has said there is no local talent in Singapore worth protecting.

Other government figures think record prices are too high and the British and American companies should reduce them.

But the pirates are hard to beat, with an estimated 1,000 illegitimate outlets for cassette tapes in the republic and only one legitimate outlet, run by EMI.

Big business is not in the home market, however. In 1982, Singapore exported nearly 36 million pre-recorded cassettes, not to mention pirate blanks of both audio and video cassettes.

The pirates' story begins in London or Los Angeles when an employee of one of the international airlines picks up a copy of a new album. Within 24 hours, that LP is back in Singapore, and one of the top three pirates will be running off cassette copies at the rate of 1,500 an hour.

The trouble is their quality is excellent", a record company executive admits. "They no longer just make a straight copy of the album. Now, they make their own master tape from which they make the copies and, very often the quality is so good you can't tell it from the original.

"After the master is made, up to 30 recording machines reproduce the music on tape bought in bulk, usually from Europe or Japan."

The legitimate importer has to wait up to two months for his supplies, by which time the pirates have swept the board. If the importer goes to the expense of air-freighting copies in to coincide with the release date in London, he has 24 hours to sell as many as he can before the pirates take over.

The only thing which prevents the pirates getting to market sooner is the need to print inserts of the cover and the album contents. They have zeroed in on a market which the legitimate companies have neglected: the Middle East.

In 1982 Saudi Arabia took nearly 29 million of the pirate cassettes. The hundreds of thousands of guest workers from all over the world have musical tastes which are as varied – and the Singapore pirates are there with their cassettes by the container-load.



Fashion craze: Peking shoppers mob the counter at a sale of Western suits.

Daughter of Marcos to be election candidate

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The 28-year-old daughter of President Marcos yesterday announced her candidacy in a key Philippines parliamentary election in May, one day after her mother tearfully announced she was not running.

Mrs Imee Marcos-Manotoc will seek election in her father's home province of Ilocos Norte where her younger brother, Mr Ferdinand Marcos, is Governor. Her election is virtually assured, observers say.

The President's wife told reporters that it was her personal decision not to seek reelection to the 200-member National Assembly, but her daughter's candidacy was "the people's will".

"If the people want her, who am I to say no. Why will I deny them?" This was proof that the people had confidence in the Marcos family, she said, adding that it resolved a bitter squabble for the party nomination in Ilocos Norte between the President's uncle and nephew.

President Marcos had earlier said he was against "political dynasties . . . unless there is no alternative". His daughter, however, became an exception to the rule. Her candidacy seemed inevitable last weekend when President Marcos, bewailing the lack of political talent in his home province, described his daughter as "a very obstinate lady" because of her initial refusal to accept the party's nomination.

Opposition leaders believe the last-minute candidacy of Mrs Imee Marcos-Manotoc as part of a "grand plan" by the President and his wife to groom their children for future political leadership.

Mrs Imelda Marcos's decision not to seek a second six-year parliamentary term is in line with her pledge last September, shortly after the murder of Benigno Aquino, the opposition leader, to give up politics and become the "chief lobbyist" of the private business sector.

Policeman takes on job as Mafia town mayor

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Inspector Jacomo Grillo, a serving Italian police officer, has become Mayor of Elcamo in Sicily, a town of 60,000 frequently described as a Mafia centre. A special decree was pursued to enable him to do so.

His immediate predecessor as Mayor Resigned at the end of February and left public life altogether. he left wing has suggested he had been threatened by the Mafia.

Signor Grillo is cautious in talking about this. He points out that two inquiries are in progress into his predecessor's departure, by the regional authorities and the other by the office of the Special High Commissioner combatting the Mafia.

The former Mayor made no effort to tell the police about any threats, although the police station is only 200 yards from the town hall.

What made Inspector Grillo ask for special leave to become the first policeman in Italy to be Mayor? "Because" he says "I love my town". He was born in Elcamo.

Signor Grillo has kept the Town Planning Department under his personal control, a sensitive post because of alleged Mafia interest in property speculation. But the inspector avoids dramatics. It is up to the mayor, he says, to fill these posts as he thinks fit. He has for the moment decided not to delegate responsibility for town planning to anyone else.

He was elected to the Council as an independent in the Christian Democrat lists. If he sees out his full mandate he will be mayor until June 1985.

Signor Antonino Cuomo, the mayor of Sorrento who was arrested on charges of corruption, is being held in the Naples prison of Poggioreale. The mayor, a Christian Democrat, was allegedly involved in the distribution of jobs to favourites immediately before the last elections.

Duarte ahead in snail's pace count

San Salvador (AP) – The Christian Democratic presidential candidate, Señor Napoleon Duarte, increased his lead over the representative of the extreme right, Major D'Aubuisson as the count from Sunday's presidential election in El Salvador continued at a snail's pace.

With 25 per cent of the vote tallied, Señor Duarte led with 119,612 votes, or 40 per cent, to Major D'Aubuisson's 94,737, or 31.2 per cent. The Christian Democrat was expected to increase his lead when votes are counted from the larger cities, where Señor Duarte is strongest.

Because of confusion and bickering at the Central Electoral Council, which supervised the polling, the final results are not expected to be made public before the weekend.

But Christian Democratic Party supporters admitted that Senor Duarte is not going to obtain the absolute majority required by law, and will have to face Major D'Aubuisson in a run-off, probably on May 6.

Señor Duarte, aged 58, appeared strongest among the middle class and the peasants, to whom he gave land and credits in a series of land, banking and social reforms that he pushed through while President.

Major D'Aubuisson, aged 40, and his Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena) are backed by the old wealthy families, in alliance with the military.

Dr. Francisco José Guerrero, whose conservative National Conciliation Party (PCN) ruled El Salvador through fraudulent elections until it was overthrown by a military coup in October, 1979, followed Señor Duarte and Major D'Aubisson with 69,104 votes, or 22.8 per cent.

● West German MPs who observed the Salvadorean elections gave the poll their qualified blessing yesterday (Reuter reports).

For £450 you could give the kids a treat, instead of giving yourself a cough.

Thanks to the budget, if you smoke twenty cigarettes a day, it's now going to cost you about £450 a year to smoke. Just think what you could do with the money.

You could buy bicycles for the family.

(Get one for yourself, too. You'll have the breath to ride it.)

You could put enough petrol in your car to drive 7,000 miles at 30mpg.

You could give your wife a new outfit. Or take a holiday for two in the Mediterranean.

All you have to do is give up cigarettes.

You might even be saving something more important than money – yourself.

A young man who smokes twenty a day is 40 times more likely to die of smoking than in a road accident.*

So if you want another reason to give up, we've got one. Much as your children would like a new bike, they'd love an old Dad even more.



* Health or Smoking. Royal College of Physicians 1983. In our advertisement on March 14th, we inadvertently stated that tobacco kills 40 times as many people as road accidents; we should have said smokers not people. The fact is, road accidents in the U.K. kill about 6,000 people a year, while tobacco kills about 100,000.

Attack on coastal town shows Unita's power to sow wide disruption

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The attack by the Angolan rebel movement, Unita, last Sunday on the coastal town of Sumbe (formerly Novo Redondo) only 160 miles south-east of Luanda, the Angolan capital, demonstrated dramatically the ability of the guerrillas to move with impunity over large areas of the country.

Less than a month ago Unita – the National Union for the Total Indepedence of Angola – raided the north-eastern diamond-mining centre of Kafufo and captured more than 70 foreigners working there, including 16 British technicians. Diamonds are Angola's second biggest foreign exchange earner.

Details of the fighting at Sumbe are still sketchy. A 5,000-strong Unita force claims to have seized the town, a provincial capital, and killed 81 Russians, Bulgarians and Cubans and more than 500 Angola government troops. The Angolans have confirmed the attack, but say that only eight "pacific citizens" were killed and that the rebels were immediately routed.

Whatever the truth, the mere fact that Dr Jonas Savimbi's guerrillas are operating over such a widespread area is in itself highly significant and confirms that Unita is now the least controlled and most unpredictable element in the current attempts to end the related Angolan and Namibian (South-West African) conflicts.

Under the agreement reached in Lusaka on February 16, South Africa is withdrawing its troops from those parts of Angola's South-western province which they have been occupying for the last three years or more. As they pull out, the vacated areas are being returned to Angolan control.

The quid pro quo is that Angola has undertaken to prevent the southward infiltration of Swapo (South West Africa People's Organization) guerrillas from their Angolan bases into Namibia, which is still occupied by Pretoria 18 years after its presence there was declared illegal by the United Nations.

Mixed units of the Angolan-South African military monitoring commission set up at Lusaka have, in fact, clashed at least three times this month with Swapo guerrillas who were either unaware of the terms of the accord or were under orders to try to get down into Namibia before the infiltration routes were completely closed.

The Lusaka accord imposes no reciprocal obligation on South Africa to restrain Unita, even though it is generally acknowledged that Pretoria has been Dr Savimbi's main source of arms and ammunition over most of the past decade. There may be some tacit understanding on this point, but it is questionable whether Pretoria could control Unita even if it wanted to.

Dr Savimbi cut his teeth as a guerrilla leader on the Portuguese colonial armed forces, and was around long before the South Africans came on the scene. He leads an authentic black nationalist movement with a base of popular support in the Ovimbundu tribe, which accounts for nearly 40 per cent of the Angolan population.

Pretoria has poured such huge quantities of supplies across the border over the past year or so that even if the South African lifeline was totally cut off Dr Savimbi would face no serious difficulties for the foreseeable future. In any case, he also gets weapons from Morocco and Saudi Arabia, funnelled into northern and eastern Angola via Zaire.

President Mobutu of Zaire, despite formally correct relations with Luanda, gives full backing to Dr Savimbi. The Unita leader also enjoys warm relations with President Kaunda of Zambia, who has emerged as an important behind-the-scenes mediator in the peace diplomacy in southern Africa.

On the face of it, then, Luanda seems to have allowed itself, under economic pressure, to be manoeuvred into a very one-sided agreement. The Angolans may believe, however, that, freed of South African pressure on their southern border, they can destroy Unita militarily. Recent visitors to Angola report huge shiploads of Soviet arms arriving daily.

If that is so, a long period of inconclusive fighting is in prospect. It also means that the estimated 25,000 Cuban troops in Angola will not be sent home soon, thereby continuing to furnish Pretoria with a pretext for refusing to leave Namibia. Until Unita can somehow be accommodated peacefully no lasting settlement is likely.

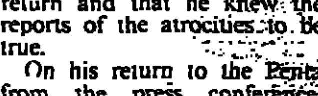
Almost certainly the United States is the only country with the diplomatic and economic leverage to bring Luanda and Unita to the negotiating table. In the long run, the very stalemate between Government and rebels, with neither side able to inflict a decisive defeat on the other, could be the best hope of compromise.



Royal welcome: King Olaf of Norway, with King Juan Carlos at his side, taking the salute at Madrid airport on his arrival for a three-day visit to Spain.

Lonrho chief cut off cash

Nkomo's 'darkest moment'



By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

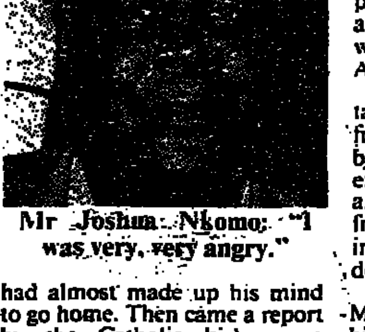
Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe opposition leader who fled to Britain in fear of his life a year ago, had to leave his hotel near Heathrow airport when his benefactor, Mr Tiny Rowland of Lonhro, stopped paying the bill.

"At the darkest moment of my life the man I regarded as my friend withdrew his help and left me without either money or a place to live at 12 hours' notice", he says in a forthcoming autobiography.

But he admits in *Nkomo: The story of my life* which is being published in mid-April by Methuen, that he came to Britain against the advice of his old friend, Mr Rowland. He telephoned Mr Rowland from Botswana after he had fled his home in Matabeleland, and was advised to stay where he was or return to Zimbabwe.

Even so, when Mr Nkomo ignored his friend's wishes and flew on to London in March last year, Mr Rowland sent a representative to meet him at Heathrow and escort him to the Penta hotel nearby.

By Easter, his health and confidence restored, Mr Nkomo



Mr Joshua Nkomo: "I was very, very angry."

had almost made up his mind to go home. Then came a report by the Catholic bishops in Zimbabwe, which convincingly detailed atrocities committed in Matabeleland by soldiers of the Fifth Brigade, The North Korean-trained "private army" of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister. Mr Mugabe's reaction was to pour scorn on the report.

"I could not keep silent; to do so would have been to betray my own suffering people", Mr Nkomo writes. He immediately called a press conference at which he announced that he was cancelling his plans to return and that he knew the reports of the atrocities to be true.

On his return to the Penta from the press conference, however, he recieved a telephone call from the personal assistant to Mr Rowland – whom he thought to be in Latin America.

"Tiny had decided his assistance was to end that night; from the following day I was to be responsible for my own expenses. I was very, very angry... I was furious that my friend should go through an intermediary to tell me what to do."

Despite the apparent split, Mr Nkomo ends by expressing his gratitude to Mr Rowland.

He goes on: "I understand why de did it. People were pressing him. If he went on helping, his investments in Zimbabwe might be threatened. My friends in the Zimbabwe Government wanted me to starve, although I do not see what good it would do them to see me in the gutter."

Mr Nkomo, who eventually went home on August 15, after five months in self-imposed exile, will be in London for the launch of the book in two weeks' time.

US in middle of Aegean row

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Relations between the United States and the Government of Greece come under review later today when Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, arrives in Athens for extensive talks with Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, who doubles as Minister of Defence.

The American bases in Greece and a £2 billion plan to modernize the Greek air force are bound to be discussed. But what is likely to claim most of their attention is the impact that Greek-Turkish antagonism is having both on Greece's commitment to Nato and its attitude towards the United States.

The American Government is known to be concerned because Greek-Turkish differences over Aegean air space are holding up the creation of a new Nato air command at Larisa in central Greece, while its dispute over the military status of the Greek island of Lemnos had prompted Greece to boycott all Nato exercises in the Aegean for over a year.

The Socialist Government in Athens makes its dislike for the Reagan Administration quite plain, but it insists that under the recent agreement on US-Greek bases, the American Government assumed the obligation to maintain the balance of power between Greece and Turkey by providing military aid to them at a fixed ratio of seven to Greece for every 10 granted to Turkey.

Whenever the US Government tries to question this claim, the powerful Greek lobby in Washington, especially influential in a US election year, is unleashed to obtain a reversal of the Administration's recommendations.

In this sense, the climate of today's talks in Athens is enlivened by the news from Washington that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has opted in favour of the seven to 10 ratio. Greece is being recommended for $500m of military assistance to Turkey's $716m for the year 1984-85.

What is more, the committee made the release of $216m of grant aid to Turkey conditional on the return of Marosha (new town Famagusta) by the Turkish-Cypriots for the prompt repatriation of the city's 40,000 Greek-Cypriot refugees.

This caveat is unlikely to survive the subseqent stages of ratification of the Foreign Aid Bill, but it has already gratified the Greek Government and could make Mr Weinberger's visit to Turkey next week much less comfortable.

The pro-Moscow Greek Communist Party, clearly disturbed by the possibility that Greece's increasing reliance on the US could dissipate the pronounced pro-Soviet bias in Greek foreign policy, has already called for protest rallies throughout Greece against the "Pentagon's war-hawk".

Demonstrators are due to march to the American embassy in Athens tonight as the US Defence Secretary and the Greek Prime Minister will be meeting.

● THE HAGUE: Mr Weinberger appealed to The Nerherlands yesterday to accept 48 cruise nuclear missiles, saying their deployment was vital to western defence

But at the start of a delicate mission to persuade the Dutch to maintain Nato solidarity over cruise, Mr Weinberger carefully avoided putting undue pressure on his hosts.

At a press conference after a first meeting with the Dutch Defence Minister Mr Job de Reiter, Mr Weinberger said the alliance's plans for deployment in five countries had been carefully made to provide balance for an enormous number of Soviet SS-20 missiles. The Dutch are the last of the allies to decide on siting.

"It is vital, I think, that the plan be carried out. It does not give equality but is planned as a deterrent," he said.

Swiss spray artist fails to escape jail term

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

A controversial graffiti artist, known as the Sprayer of Zurich, who has been widely acclaimed for his art but sentenced in his home town to nine months' imprisonment for defacing public property, is to be extradited to Switzerland.

The West German constitutional court in Karlsruhe has turned down an application by Herr Harald Naegeli for asylum, saying the punishment he now faces in Switzerland, which includes a fine of 101,534 Swiss francs (£32,000) was not unreasonable. Damage to property could not be justified by the freedom of art. Both in Germany and Switzerland it ought to be possible to produce art without defacing buildings.

Herr Naegeli, who covered more than 100 buildings in Zurich with weird, spindly figures sprayed from aerosol cans in night-time protests against urban sterility, was arrested on a Swiss warrant last August in Germany, and has since been living on bail in Düsseldorf. His graffiti were acclaimed by Swiss artists, and became a tourist attraction, and an art school in Wiesbaden tried to offer him cultural sanctuary.

Rebels kill two more in Sri Lanka

From Our Correspondent
Colombo

Dissidents in Sri Lanka's Northern Province shot and killed two government employees yesterday soon after security forces had arrested 40 suspects in a pre-dawn swoop.

The killings brought the total number of deaths at the hands of the rebels to eight within the last 10 days. In three earlier incidents two Air Force personnel and four police officers were killed.

The Government reacted angrily yesterday to a statement in Delhi by an External Affairs Ministry spokesman, who expressed regret over the incident on Wednesday in which Air Force personnel in the north killed 10 people when they opened fire after an alleged attack on them. The Government did not dispute the Indian figure of 10.

An official of the Foreign Ministry in Colombo said yesterday the Indian Government had not expressed any regrets when six Sri Lankan servicemen off duty and in civilian clothes had been killed by dissidents. He called the Indian statement "one-sided".

● ISLAMABAD: President Zia ul-Haq said yesterday he was prepared to step down if Pakistanis rejected, in a referendum, his conception of a party-free Islamic democracy.

● DHAKA: The Bangladesh military ruler General Hossain Mohammad Ershad, has rejected opposition party demands that he hand over power to a caretaker government before parliamentary elections due later this year (Reuter reports).

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Washington

The strong showing of the Reverend Jesse Jackson may prove in the long run to be the most significant feature of this year's domocratic primaries.

He has never stood the slightest chance of winning the nomination. The American electorate is not ready for a black president and the democratic party knows that well enough. But Mr Jackson has won more support in these primaries than most people had expected.

This week he won more votes than either Mr Walter Mondale or Senator Gary Hart in the traditionally conservative state of Virginia. He has run strongly elsewhere in the South and the 21 per cent of the vote that he gained in Illinois last week came as a surprise to most politicians in that state.

What we are seeing is the political emergence of the black community. Ethnic voting is part of the American political tradition. By voting as a block the Irish, the Italians, the Jews and other immigrant communities have each in their turn won a measure of political power and influence and thereby secured a better place for themselves in American life.

It is understandable that the blacks should flock to do the same but up to now a lower proportion of them than other communities have voted or even registered to vote.

Treated as an equal

Mr Jackson has changed this by being the first black to run for president and by showing that he can hold his own in campaigning with the other candidates. There he is in the joint debates, one of only three candidates now left in the race, treated as an equal and fully justifying that position by his performance.

I am not suggesting that Mr Jackson would be an acceptable President if only he could be elected. He would not be. Neither his knowledge and experience, nor the degree of personal trust he can inspire, would fit him for the Presidency.

It would also be an exaggeration to claim that Mr Jackson alone had been responsible for the greater political activity of blacks this year.

But his candidacy has undoubtedly been a source of pride and stimulus for the black community. It is unlikely that they will slip back into a political torpor when this campaign is over.

How much influence Mr Jackson will be able to exercise on their behalf this year will depend initially on the outcome of the remaining primaries. If they produce deadlock between Mr Mondale and Senator Hart, then Mr Jackson could be the power broker at the San Francisco convention.

Already Senator Hart and his staff have been sending friendly signals in Mr Jackson's direction. Even if it is clear long before getting to San Francisco who the Democratic nominee will be, he will still need Mr Jackson's help in November to get black voters to the polls.

Hope of real advantages

At that stage both the Democratic nominee and Mr Jackson may have difficulty. The candidate will need Mr Jackson's help and Mr Jackson will need to show that he can deliver the votes if he is to have the maximum influence in the Democratic Party in the future – always assuming that he does not decide to run as a third candidate.

To get the black vote out Mr Jackson will need to offer the hope of real advantages for the black community. But his help will be counter-productive if those advantages alienate other voters.

He cannot become the Vice-Presidential candidate because that would frighten off the white electorate. He probably would not want the offer of a Cabinet post. And, in any case, whoever is the Presidential candidate must be careful about doing any obvious deals.

What the black voters would most appreciate would be Government help to provide jobs and relieve poverty – though here again it would be politically damaging for the Democrats to discriminate in favour of blacks.

Yet Mr Jackson has already seized the political leadership of black America. Given luck and skill, it is just possible that he might determine the political leadership of the country as a whole by bringing out many more blacks to vote against Mr Reagan. He can never be the king, but he might be the kingmaker.

Zanzibar detainee is named

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi

Zanzibar's new president, Mr Ali Hassan Mwinyi, says only one person – the former Zanzibar Attorney-General, Mr Wolfango Dourado – is under detention following the constitutional crisis which resulted in the resignation of the former President, Mr Aboud Jumbe, in January.

In a radio inteview in Zanzibar, Mr Mwinyi said "a couple" of others were restricted to their homes, but he forecast that they would soon be free of all restrictions.

Mr Dourado led calls for changes in the constitution which has linked Zanzibar with mainland Tanzania since the Sultan of Zanzibar was overthrown in 1964. But Mr Mwinyi denied that there was any popular support for his views.

Elected as interim president following Mr Jumbe's resignation, Mr Mwinyi is the only candidate in a presidential election now fixed for April 19. Under the constitution, he must receive majority of the votes if he is to remain in office, but this is a foregone conclusion.

He said new constitutional provisions are now being worked out to give a stronger voice to Zanzibaris in their own affairs.

● DAR ES SALAAM: President Julius Nyerere has again hinted that he may not stand for re-election at the presidential election due next year (Reuter reports).

President Nyerere, who has led the country since independence from Britain in 1961, was quoted by the Government's *Daily News* today as saying the ruling party should find an alternative candidate.

Political analysts believe he might become an elder statesman figure by leading the ruling Revolutionary Party.

Referee wins on points in Hart - Mondale battle

Gloves off as contenders go for the kill

From Nicholas Ashford
New York

The gloves finally came off in New York. The contest between Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart for the Democratic presidential nomination, which until now has been described in horse race terms, has turned into a bare-knuckle contest, with the two combatants slugging at each other in an attempt to deliver a knock-out blow to the solar plexus, the chin or even below the belt.

As the two traded blows in a pre-primary debate at Columbia University, the third candidate in the contest, the Rev Jesse Jackson, took on the role of referee, sometimes siding with one, sometimes the other, and occasionaly warning both to hold off and fight clean.

This "rat-a-tat", he told them at one stage, would dominate the news and obscure attention from the real issues at stake – the future direction of the Democratic Party and how to get President Reagan out of the White House.

Wednesday's night's clash provided a revealing glimpse of the growing animosity between Mr Mondale and Mr Hart, both of whom have in the past claimed the other as a friend. Almost the entire hour-long debate was taken up by the two of them criticizing the other's leadership ability, often sarcastically.

At on point, Mr Mondale accused Mr Hart of running misleading television avertisements and demanded: "You pull those ads tonight".

"Why do you run those ads that suggest I'm out trying to kill kids?" Mr Mondale angrily asked the Colorado senator. "All my life I've fought for peace. All my life I've been opposed to any kind of use of American force that isn't totally justfied and sensible in the circumstances."

Getting down to it: Mr Mondale courting the youth vote at a New York nursery school.

The hard commercial he was referring to warns that Mr Mondale's policies could lead to thousands of American casulties in a future Central American conflict.

Mr Hart angrily countered with a question of his own. "I would answer by asking you a question. Why have you questioned my commitment to arms control and civil rights when you know that I have just as much commitment to both of those as you have?"

Much of the debate was taken up by a discussion – a brawl might be a more accurate description – on foreign policy issues, particularly the use of American combat troops overseas.

Mr Hart said he would reaffirm America's commitment to Western Europe, Japan, Korea, Australia and other Pacific countries.

But he said it was equally important to know where we would not fight. Unlike Mr Mondale, he said, "Some of us have learnt the lesson of Vietnam . . . and that is why I disagree with the continued presence of American forces in central America."

Mr Mondale responded: "There is a lesson to be learnt from Vietnam. I was late in opposing that war and I've admitted it. It was the worst mistake of my life. . . the problem with what you are saying is that you learnt the wrong lesson. There is a proper role for American power in the world."

Mr Mondale accused his rival of "Pulling the plug" on Central America and of leaving America's allies to fend for themselves if the Persian Gulf explodes.

The two men joined forces briefly to criticize Mr Reagan's arms control record, but then fell quickly to disputing their claims to seniority and consistency in support of disarmament and a nuclear weapons freeze.

They were also in agreement in their support for Israel

In the closing comments Mr Mondale, citing his record on arms control, urged New Yorkers next Tuesday to "vote as if your life depended on it. . . because it might." Mr

If there was a winner it was probably the referee, Mr Jackson. As for the two main contestants, it is clear they will have to trade a lot more punches before either of them is out for the count.

Haig's memoirs fall on deaf ears in Washington

From Christopher Thomas
Washington

The first instalment of Mr Alexander Haig's memoirs on his traumatic 17 months as Secretary of State landed quietly, almost imperceptibly, on the ever-growing pile of Washington political memoirs. It is quite remarkable how little dust he has disturbed with such a weight of malice.

Yet here is a widely disliked man telling stories about President Reagan. Mr Caspar Weinberger, Mr Edwin Neese and others with whom he played the game of power. Nobody is seriously fighting back. It is as though Washington were determined not to hear Mr Haig.

Mr Reagan is attacked in the most subtle way for his seeming detachment from decision-making, but only after a breathless eulogy. "Reagan's affability, his habit of speaking plainly without metaphor or jargon, and above all, the impression he gives of liking the person he is talking to, create a good atmosphere", Mr Haig writes. "Simply put, Ronald Reagan is a nice guy."

The Associated Press strained to produce ten photographs the other day on how Mr Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, "mildly ridiculed" the assertion in the memoirs that he was confused after the attempted assassination of President Reagan in 1981. Somebody, anyway, has been slightly stung.

In a meeting in the situation room of the White House after the shooting Mr Weinberger "shocked" Mr Haig by announcing that he had raised the alert status of US forces. Mr Haig said that Mr Weinberger did not seem to know what he was doing at the time and risked raising tensions with the Soviet Union.



General Haig: A widely disliked man

"We seem to have attended different meetings, although we were in the room at the same time", Mr Wienberger said.

Mr Haig acknowledges in the book, *Caveat: realism, Reagan and Foreign Policy*, that he should not have declared "I am in control here" while Vice-President George Bush was flying back to Washinton from Texas, and while Mr Reagan was on the operating table.

"Certainly I was guilty of a poor choice of words", he said. "Possibly I should have washed my face or taken a half dozen deep breaths before going on camera."

Mr Haig describes the poignant final hours of the Presidency of Mr Richard Nixon for when he served as Chief of Staff. "We went together to the Lincoln sitting room, his favourite place. The only light came from a log fire on the hearth.

"He began to talk. . . . I left him there, sitting alone in the dark. When I returned shortly after dawn Nixon was still in the same chair. The gray light of morning filled the room. There was the smell of a fire that had died. On a table lay a stack of books, the memoirs of Presidents.

هكذا من الأصل

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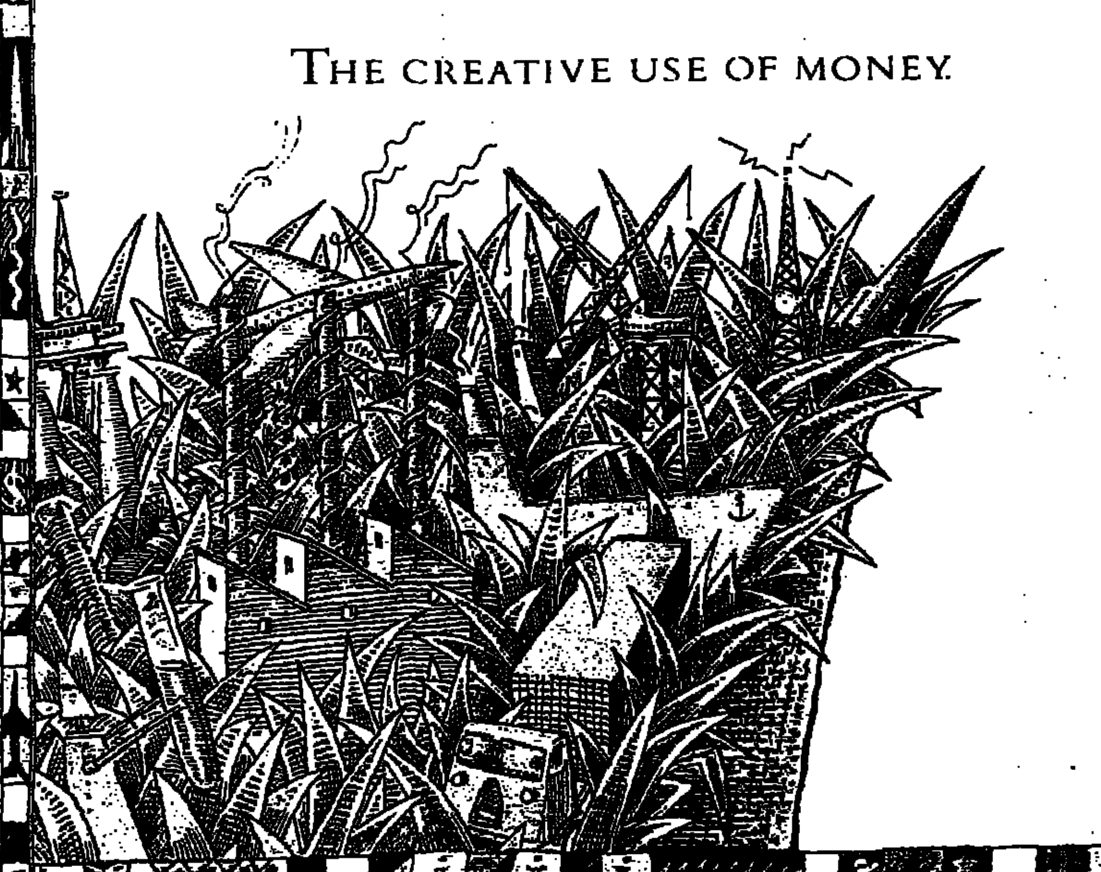
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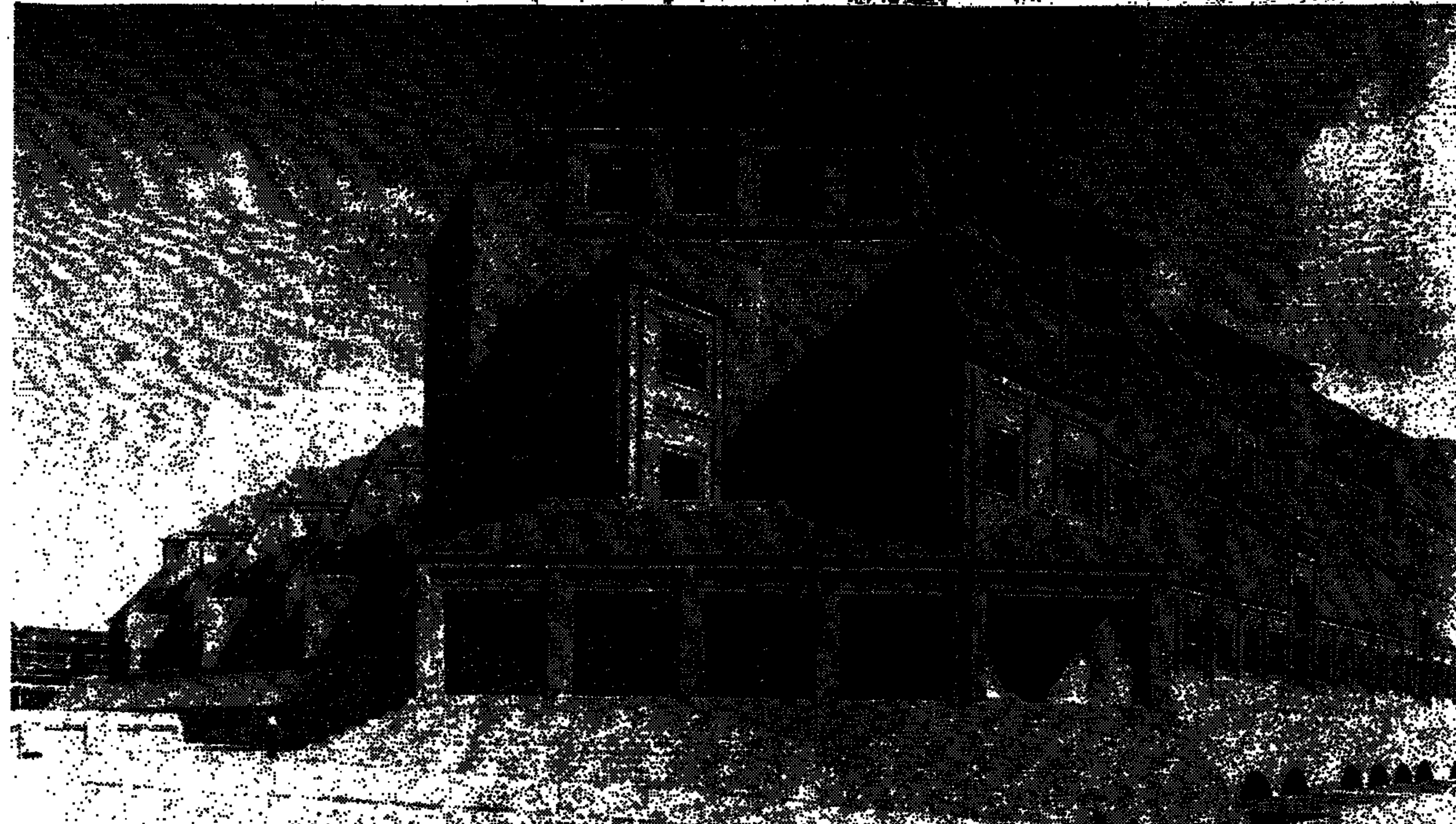
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SPECTRUM

Back to firm foundations

When the dust settled after Ronan Point tower block fell down nearly 20 years ago, more than bricks and mortar lay in the rubble. The collapse also spelt the end of the dreams of modern architecture. Roderick Gradidge explains how architects are once more turning to tried and traditional designs

FULFILLING THE COUNCILLORS' EVERY IDEAL



The Hillingdon Civic Centre, with red brick walls, tile roofs, broken [illegible] and lush green surrounds

A surprising thing is happening to architecture. Almost by stealth, architects are turning back to more traditional forms. This is a trend which seems to be running throughout the profession from small young practices building their first block of old people's homes to enormous commercial firms building great town centre redevelopment schemes.

For some years now, architecture has been going through a time of stylistic upheaval, largely brought about by a loss of faith in the modern movement, which for a short time was accepted by most architects, though not the public, as a universal style. However, from the time of the collapse of the Ronan Point tower block in the late 1960s public opinion – spearheaded by the conservation societies – has rejected modern architecture, its refusal to consider the needs of people, and the uncompromising manner in which it impinged upon older townscapes.

This failure by architects is reflected in the necessity for local authorities, bowing to the wishes of the public, to issue design guides to control *architects*, and force them to build buildings that at least make a token attempt to conform to their surroundings. Now the developers have discovered that modern architecture is so unpopular with the public that it is no longer salable.

This has meant that architects are having to turn to an architecture which, with the use of more traditional materials and forms, offers a

Turning to forms with a more humane vision

considerably more humane vision. It is not a coincidence that this architecture should bear a close resemblance to Edwardian architecture (with its romanticism, its stylistic tolerance and its love of natural materials) since this was the last period of architectural development before the stultifying arrival of modernism.

The first important building in the new style was the Hillingdon Civic Centre built in 1976. As its architect, Andrew Derbyshire, of Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall and Partners, explained at a recent symposium held at the Art Workers Guild, The Hillingdon councillors "had very clear ideas about what they wanted their new civic centre to look like. They had had enough of orthogonal concrete and rectilinear, sharp things. The people of Hillingdon are self-selected suburbanites – they like living in houses you can 'walk round' – with some greenery, brick walls and a pitched tile roof. The councillors made it clear at our first interview that unless we were prepared to deliver that kind of aesthetic they were not interested in further talks."

The Hillingdon Civic Centre today, with its lush green planting growing round, and in some places sweeping over, the red brick walls, broken bays, under great hipped tile roofs which sometimes come down almost to the ground, seems to have fulfilled every ideal of the Hillingdon councillors.

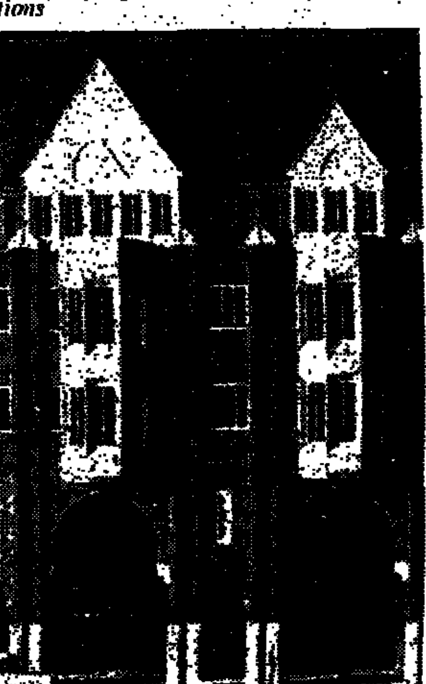
That it has had a profound effect can be seen in many of the recent local government offices. Gone are the barren concrete expanses, vast sheets of glass and an uncompromising attitude to the neighbouring buildings. Sophisticates may find in buildings like the new headquarters of the Mole Valley District Council too much of *The Wind in the Willows* or Disneyland, with the small windows nestling in red brick walls set over great brick arches under caps of hipped tile roofs emulating oast-houses or disused windmills. None the less, this is an architecture that for once genuinely reflects the taste of the public, who are after all paying for it. The architect has at last found his proper place in society, not as an artist who leads the public into ever more arid spaces but as an ordinary technician who must respond to the wishes of those whom he serves.

It is in housing that this style has become most commonplace and there are times when the style, almost cloyingly twee, fully deserves to be called "Noddy architecture". However, architects like Jeremy Dixon have

DECORATIVE DEMARCATION

The Ealing Civic Centre: Covering a multitude of functions





eschewed this cottagey look and have yet managed to retain a traditional style of architecture that fits completely into the London street pattern while keeping to a strict budget.

Perhaps the most remarkable of this type of housing comes from the small firm of Pitchin and Kellow. They have only so far built four small groups of flats and houses, but all of them are in a style which, although original, fits completely into the surrounding south London architecture where they build. This is largely brought about by the use of red diaper brick patterning which contrasts with the stock brickwork of the wall.

Possibly the most interesting is the simplest: a just completed block of studio flats in Church Street, Croydon. Here they have used a dark brown brick which matches the nearby parish church, contrasting it with light buff diaper work which is used wittily to decorate what would otherwise be a dull little box. However it is not just in suburbia that this style occurs. Gavin Stamp has recently noted in these columns that Richard Seifert (of Centre Point) is at the moment building a red brick block with Tudor turrets in Shaftesbury Avenue.

Even more surprising is a block of buildings in Lovat Lane – a very narrow City path. Here another large commercial firm, the Thomas Saunders Partnership, are just completing an office development for the Guardian Royal Exchange, which for some

Tradition that fits into London's street pattern

reason they have called "The City Village". Perhaps the name is meant to explain the extraordinary, and not a little vulgar, architecture which combines features of all periods and in all scales, which have been thrown together with undeniable panache, each numbered "house" being in quite a different style. The distinct differentiation of each building was specifically requested by the clients so that each tenant could feel that his building was different from the neighbouring building.

Two other surprising, but less contentious, small office buildings have recently been built by big architectural firms. By Robert Chitham of Chapman Taylor & Partners is an office block at 15 Bloomsbury Square in a straightforward nineteenth-century London style. Above a rusticated stucco base are two floors of sash windows in London stock brickwork. Above these is a deep stucco frieze with windows which alternate with large decorative plaster cartouches. It is a facade of some subtlety, since an office block requires that all the floors are of the same height, which of course is not true of the neighbouring houses. Chitham has succeeded in creating a building which suggests a piano-nobile and an attic while retaining even ceiling heights throughout, something that even the great Lutyens did not always achieve. The result is a new building that within a few years will fit completely within the cityscape and become unnoticed, which is what all good architecture should do.

The other office block, right in the City at 68 Cornhill, is designed by Richard Dickinson of Ralph Judd & Partners. It is stone faced and in the classical manner of the buildings on either side of it, and once again within

Setting about developing 'a local vernacular'

a short time will fade into the streetline. The style of architecture used is the stripped classicism that came in just before the swing over to modern architecture and is almost as if Dickinson is picking up again just where architecture stopped in 1914.

Another building, the largest and most remarkable of all, also seems to be designed as though nothing had happened in architecture since 1914. This is the Ealing Civic Centre by the Building Design Partnership.

BDP in fact had a highly complex brief, for a shopping precinct, a public library, a sports centre, a car park and a parade of shops with offices over had to be incorporated. Very sensibly the architects have decided to demarcate these different functions by putting them under different roofs, and this has led them to a style of architecture reminiscent of G. E. Street at the Law Courts in the Strand. They say they set about developing a "local vernacular, a style that takes in (R. Norman) Shaw, the towers of Pierrefonds and the idea of romanticism from Carcassonne".

The building is in bright red brick with tall slate hipped roofs which sweep up in places into decorative wrought iron points capped with weather vanes. The main lift tower to the car park, corbelled out at the top under pepper-pot roof, pokes above and dominates the low shopping streets of Ealing, as does the surprising octagonal squash courts, perched high up in the air with a corbelled out balcony running round all eight sides. The covered shopping precinct opens out into a market square surrounded by an arched glazed cloister, from the centre of which a grand staircase rises between two tall towers leading to the first floor library.

On the other side, the square is dominated by a four-storey office block, which does not look like any office block that we have seen for 50 years. Here the main feature is a line of bay windows capped with little hipped roofs which grow out from the great main roof. Even the car park has decorative ironwork to the ventilation openings and is approached by a ramp supported by leaping arches.

There can be little doubt that this is the type of architecture that people have been asking for, for a long time. It will be interesting to see whether it works in the humane way in which the revived Covent Garden does.

The 1880s were one of the most exciting decades of English architecture, which of course lead to the greatest of all periods of architecture in England, the 1890s, when Lutyens, Voysey and the whole magnificent school of architects who made up the Arts and Crafts Movement flourished. It is unlikely that the 1980s will prove to be quite so fertile, but it does seem that if there is any architecture in the 1990s, it will be more humane than anyone could have thought possible in the arid 1960s.

TUDOR TURRETS

Red brick in Shaftesbury Avenue



moreover . . . Miles Kington

A mountain of little molehills

I am risking imprisonment today by printing a series of memos between Michael Heseltine and Margaret Thatcher which have come into my possession. The original documents have been burnt in the office. The mole who leaked them to me has left the country and started a new life, after cosmetic surgery. Only I am left to carry the can. I am ready. Send your heavy boys round. Thatcher!

•

Heseltine to Thatcher. You have probably heard of this shocking business of a top secret document being left "by accident" in a phone box at Heathrow revealing details of our new, highly-confidential radar plan. I'm sure you will agree that we ought to make an example of someone over this. Unfortunately, the espionage boys have no idea who was responsible. Failing a human suspect, could we not prosecute the phone box? Or at least those responsible for it, who I imagine are British Telecom, or whatever it's called this week. *Somebody*'s got to be made responsible. I know how keen you are on people taking responsibility for their own actions.

Thatcher to Heseltine. I think your idea of prosecuting the owners of the phone box is excellent. Presumably someone in British Telecom must have signed the Official Secrets Act. Find out who it is, and bring him to book.

Heseltine to Thatcher. Phone box? Telecom? Prosecute? I'm afraid I'm not with you, Margaret.

Thatcher to Heseltine. I enclose the memo you sent me about the phone box. I request your comments immediately.

Heseltine to Thatcher. I did not send that memo. I have had it examined by my chaps and they are of the opinion that it is the work of a skilled forger somebody inside the Ministry of Defence. I suppose you know what this means, Margaret.

Thatcher to Heseltine. Stop beating about the bush, Michael. What does it mean?

Heseltine to Thatcher. It means that we have a totally new kind of mole inside the ministry. Instead of leaking our documents to the press, he is leaking his own documents *into* our system, which could cause enormous trouble if he is not found. Leave it to me.

Thatcher to Heseltine. I would like your comments on a new idea for future foreign tours by the Queen. Apparently she was so closely guarded in Jordan and kept behind smoked car windows that nobody actually saw her. She might just as well have stayed at home. Do you think that for other visits to trouble spots, we could *keep the Queen at home and only pretend she had gone abroad*? It would be much cheaper, and she would be at no risk.

Heseltine to Thatcher. Quite honestly, I think the chances of getting the Queen to do a visit to Israel or somewhere without actually leaving the country are nil. She wouldn't stand for that. Pity – it's a wonderful idea.

Thatcher to Heseltine. Queen? Israel? Staying at home? Have you gone off your head, Michael? What is this all about?

Heseltine to Thatcher. Oh dear. I think I have just received another fake memo. It is becoming almost impossible to communicate in writing. Do you think in future you could identify your own genuine memos with a small sign? I suggest that you include in each communication the phrase: "Cruise are wonderful. Cruise are fine. Cruise are here, and they're mine, mine, mine!" Then I will know it's really from you, Margaret.

Thatcher to Heseltine. I've just had the most extraordinary memo from your ministry, presumably from your mole. I want action immediately please.

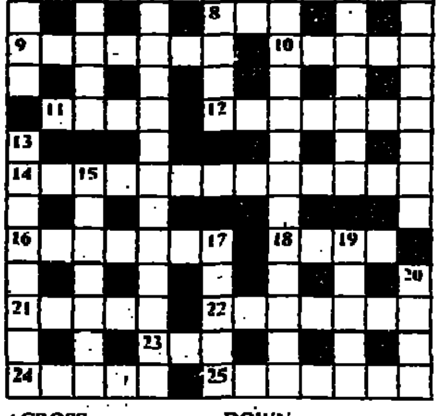
Heseltine to Thatcher. Actually, it was genuine.

Thatcher to Heseltine. Michael, this exchange of memos must now cease. Come and see me at once.

Heseltine to Thatcher. You come and see me, you middle-class monster. I'm far too busy defending this country against its own population to come bowing and scraping to you.

Thatcher to Mole. I am coming to get you, mole. Just you wait.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 305)



ACROSS

1 Main person (7)
5 Shears (5)
8 Spacewalk (1,1,1)
9 Work buildup (7)
10 Summarize (5)
11 Swing round (4)
12 Upper chamber member (7)
14 Complete form change (13)
16 Destructive behaviour (7)
18 Pleat (4)
21 Bird's rest (5)
22 Stop up (7)
23 Final state (3)
24 Straight edge (5)
25 Pastoral poem (7)

DOWN

1 Chilblain (4)
2 Wall recess (5)
3 Mayflower Puritan (7,6)
4 Ethiopian emperor title (5)
5 Bracketed (13)
6 Discovers (7)
7 Hold in check (8)
13 Not seemly (8)
15 Guillotine cart (7)
17 Wear down (5)
19 Held fast (5)
20 Marsh (4)

SOLUTION TO No 304

ACROSS: 1 Hyphen 5 Stooge 8 UNO 9 Quorum 10 Little 11 Agin 12 Ridicule 14 Whistleblower 17 Hundreds 19 Cove 21 Bistro 23 Avenge 24 Car 25 Branch 26 Doyley

DOWN: 2 Young 3 Hardnosed 4 Numeral 5 Solid 6 Out 7 Galilee 13 Crotchety 15 Haulier 16 Bastard 18 Epoch 20 Vogue 22 Ten

FRIDAY PAGE



Moreover... Miles Kington

A mountain of little molehills

FIRST PERSON

I'm just a business perk

In common with other feminists manquées I agonize a little on how to fill the gap left for occupation on a passport renewal form. You are meant to describe yourself as "housewife" but it would be just as accurate in my case to put "brain surgeon" since my qualifications for both are about equal. "Journalist" is tempting but rather foolhardy since in some of the countries I want to visit it is an open invitation to be detained at the pleasure of whoever is in power. Neither am I the sort of person to capitalize on the situation and write my innermost thoughts for publication on my release. I tried putting "dilettante" once but that wasn't allowed.

Actually the truest description would be "perk". Along with the car which is also hard to get started in the morning. I am part of my husband's contract, namely that I, the lady wife, the object of his every waking thought, should be allowed to accompany him on a business trip abroad occasionally.

Perks are a grey area in the business world – everybody has them but it is not considered nice to talk about them. The whole thing smacks of shady deals "Psst! Want a nice fat chicken no questions asked? and all that. Being a perk is an ambivalent role. It takes an extremely laid back wife to sail through a life of luxury hotels and jet travel, however brief a hiatus it is in her otherwise mundance existence and not feel a tiny twinge of guilt. Your husband is probably working very hard while you are totally idle. I always forget and refer to is as "our holiday" – an unforgivable crime.

The trouble is that husbands can often feel uneasy too. Mine is half thrilled to have me around and half riddled with puritanical guilt. He keeps urging me to enjoy myself and then dashes cups of coffee from my lips and accuses me of wild extravagance. And there are enough other partakers of perks who so horribly abuse the privilege you feel ashamed to be part of the conspiracy. There is a strong case for abolishing the perks system and simply increasing the salary to accommodate a wife's travel expenses but I have been a wife longer than a perk and know that in real life things don't work out that way.

The best of trips combine play with work

It is a great pity that perkery has this tarnished reputation because I firmly believe that if a husband wants to take his wife with him occasionally, he should be able to do so, particularly if he travels frequently. Unless you have shared the experience of an overseas trip it is hard to believe your husband when he claims that 90 per cent of travelling is tedious and lonely and his stories and enthusiasms mean so much more when you have seen the places he is talking about. It is very easy to feel resentful when all major domestic crises seem to wait until he is away. Even when he returns things can be tense. Exhausted but suspiciously bronzed and reeking of airline Handy Moist Tissue Wipes which barely mask the unmistakable odour of the good life, he sinks into bed to sleep for 24 hours in order to get his strength up to go back to work. As a friend in similar circumstances said mournfully, "He gets the jet, we get the lag". In the cause of domestic harmony alone, I am all for a bit of perkery.

There is the purely practical point of view too that a wife can be a valuable asset on an overseas trip. Having a wife along with you is a sure way of leaving the formal atmosphere of an office and "getting your feet under the table". Many an important negotiation has been clinched round a family barbeque or a trip to see the sights.

The opportunities for us perks to travel present themselves in a variety of ways. It can be a week long jolly at some conference where the hardest thing you are expected to do is to become browner than other wives, or it can be a onerous slog through a dozen different countries where the stamina of your digestive tract and your body clock's ability to adjust come under severe strain. If your husband works hard on these trips your life can be spent in hotel bedrooms waiting for him because you are too shy or too exhausted to venture out on your own. In my experience the best trips from a business as well as personal point of view combine a bit of play with work.

Actually I love being a perk. It reconciles me to my husband's long absences if I have a trip to look forward to. I rather enjoy feeling slightly illicit. I adore abandoning my sobbing children to someone else's tender mercies for a short time – as I tell them, I will love them more when I get back. I get an enormous thrill out of leading a totally unrealistic life of elevators, and hotel room numbers and complicated foreign showers and gin at eight in the morning because its really 12.30 English time. I get high on the Tever failing terror of flying and the hair-raising taxis racketing from the airport to another strange city which until than has only been a name in a James Bond novel.

Apart from the exhilarating danger of it all it is educational too. After all, how else could I learn to say, "May I have receipt please? in 12 different languages?

Anne Swain

Geoffrey Cannon on new research into bad diet and lazy habits in the West

Lifestyle with a death knell



Elaine McGregor Turneu



For lack of public health measures countless people in Britain died in Victorian days from water-borne infections. The men who built the sewers were not doctors, although some doctors encouraged their construction. In Edwardian days and afterwards, countless children were crippled by deficiency diseases; and, again, the men and women who improved the food that children eat were not all doctors. When public health measures work, people have less need of medicine. If medicine is thought of as a business, preventive medicine is bad for it.

Today, the public health battle ground has shifted. The issues now are what were once called "degenerative diseases" then "diseases of affluence" and now, accurately, "western diseases". These range from the big killer diseases (heart disease, strokes, cancers), to disorders that are usually disabling but not fatal (diabetes, gall-bladder diseases, thinning of the bones, ulcers, eating disorders), and conditions which are embarrassing or disfiguring (tooth decay, constipation, overweight, obesity).

There is general agreement among leading independent scientists that the chief underlying cause of these dieases is life-style: habits any one of which is bad for health, and which in combination are liable eventually to be deadly. In the west, we usually die of diseases peculiar to western society.

This is, above all, because in the twentieth century we have come to eat, not too much food, but the wrong sort of food. We eat far too much "saturated" fat (mostly animal and dairy fat, but also some processed vegetable oils). We eat great quantities of sugar (mostly "hidden" in processed foods). We do not eat enough whole food (wholemeal bread, potatoes, fresh vegetables, legumes and fruit). Smoking, poisonous in itself, also increases the damage done by our other unhealthy habits; as do the age-old habits of eating too much salt and drinking too much alcohol. Two-thirds of the food the average person in Britain consumes is in the form of fat, sugar and alcohol. This means that we rely for nourishment on one-third of the food we eat.

We remain an essentially sedentary population, despite the jogging and aerobics booms. The human body is a machine that improves with use: inactivity makes the effects of bad food worse. We in the west also suffer from a type of stress – frustration, is probably a better word – that may well be damaging. On the whole, western diseases are caused by a combination of bad food, smoking, drinking, and inactivity.

It follows that western diseases are more or less preventible. They may sometimes be reversible, by a programme of exceptionally nutritious food and graduated exercise. Many British doctors know this. But, rather as in Victorian and Edwardian days, community physicians are well aware that they are working against the vested interests of the medical establishment.

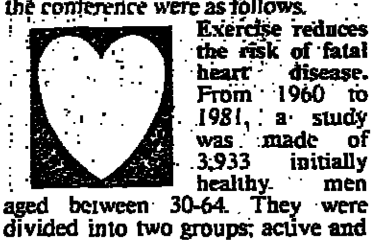
In Britain the need for prevention is not yet well understood by the public. The time will come, and this year's appointment of Sir Douglas Black as president of the British Medical Association is a huge step forward. Other champions of prevention, including Professor Geoffrey Rose and Professor Philip James, will be making important public statements about the prevention of heart disease at a conference called by the Coronary Prevention Group at the Royal College of Physicians next month.

Many of the battles of prevention have been won in America, in the teeth of furious opposition from the food industry, and impediments created by the Reagan Administration. In January the *Journal of the American Medical Association* published the results of the Lipid Research Clinic's coronary primary prevention trial. This proved that lowering the level of cholesterol in the blood – most simply done by means of eating less saturated fat and less dietary cholesterol – reduces the risk of death from heart disease.

This month, the American Heart Association (AHA), the force behind the LRC-CPPT trial, held its twenty-fourth annual conference on cardiovascular disease epidemiology, in Tampa, Florida. For two days, speaker after speaker attested to the doctrine laid down by Professor Jeremiah Stamler in tones of utmost confidence: "Heart disease can be dealt with effectively only through prevention."

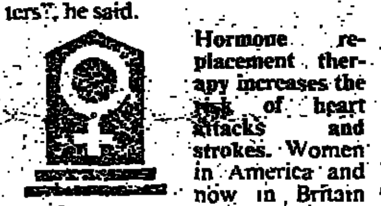
Stamler told me that his life's work was official acceptance of a "public policy for the prevention of premature epidemic heart disease". He believes that the tens of thousands of professionals, supported by hundreds of thousands of lay participants in America, have "turned the flank of this huge problem".

Some of the papers presented at the conference were as follows.

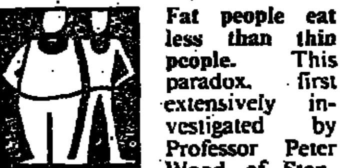


Exercise reduces the risk of fatal heart disease. From 1960 to 1981, a study was made of 3,933 initially healthy men aged between 30-64. They were divided into two groups; active and inactive. Over the 21 years, the risk of fatal ischaemic heart disease was almost three times greater for sedentary, than for active, men. This finding supports previous large-scale studies carried out in San Francisco by Professor Ralph Paffenbarger, and in London by Professor Jerry Morris. The AHA study was headed by Professor David Snowdon, of Loma Linda University, California, who found also that "low physical activity and high meat consumption may interact in the production of heart disease". The most impressive finding was that former smokers who were physically active were considerably less likely to die of heart disease as "physical activity may substantially shorten the half-life of carbon monoxide in the blood".

Healthy eating is a family affair in which mothers and daughter take the lead. Five schools in Millbral, California, took part in a project involving teachers, parents, and children at school and at home. Three schools taught healthy eating according to guidelines laid down by the AMA – less fat and cholesterol in the diet; but more polyunsaturated oils. To schools, the "controls", made no changes. The project lasted from September 1982 to June 1983. At the end the amount of unhealthy "low density lipoprotein" had dropped 12 per cent in the mother who had changed their eating habits. The daughters showed an enormous drop of 24 per cent. Dr Thomas Bersot, of the University College of San Francisco, who presented the paper, described the changes in fathers and sons as far less impressive. "A family approach is an effective way of promoting eating behaviour changes which appear to occur first in mothers and daughters", he said.



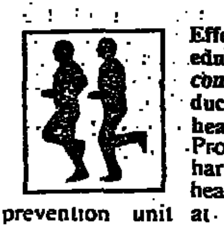
Hormone replacement therapy increases the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Women in America and now in Britain are frequently prescribed oestrogen during the menopause. The Framingham heart study looked at the results over 24 years of this hormone replacement therapy in 1,234 women aged 51 to 83. Dr Peter Wilson said the study showed that the therapy more than doubled the risk of strokes and almost doubled the risk of coronary heart disease. There was no benefit to overall death rate, and an increase in cardiovascular morbidity, especially stroke".



Fat people eat less than thin people. This paradox, first extensively investigated by Professor Peter Wood of Stanford University, was supported by the results of a study presented by Dr George Sopko of St Louis, Missouri. Dr Sopko found, in a group of healthy obese men "an inverse relationship between calorie intake and body fatness" and, in general, that the fatter the men were, the lesss they ate. (The measurement was made in calories related to body weight.) Dr Sopko also confirmed the findings of Professor Jerry Morris, from British studies, that people who eat a lot are less likely to suffer or die from heart disease. In discussion, Professor Wood pointed out the implication of these findings: that fat people should not eat less, but exercise more.



The drop in deaths from stroke does not have much to do with improved hospital care. Deaths from stroke in the Minneapolis-St Paul area were studied, comparing 1970 with 1980 Following the American (and British) national pattern, there was an impressive drop in deaths from stroke: from 89.4 per 100,000 in men, to 47.5; from 72.6 per 100,000 in women, to 40.9. But the reason seemed to be control of high blood pressure outside hopital; Dr Gomez-Martin, of the University of Minnesota, said that "impovement of medical care was not a substantial factor in the reduction of stroke mortality". In discussion, Professor John Farquhar of Stanford University suggested that people in the West have tended to consume less sodium and more potassium in the past 50 years, as canning and then freezing have replaced salting as a means of preserving foods. Salt is a prime cause of high blood pressure and this increases the risk of stroke.



Effective health education in the community reduces the risk of heart disease. Professor Farquhar, head of heart disease prevention unit at Stanford "Five City" project which 110,000 people in to cities are being encouraged to eat healthy food, stop smoking, and take exercise. In other cities 240,000 people are being studied as "controls" with no special encouragement. After 30 months, Professor Farquhar reported that the "active" people in the two cities were noticeably more aware of the issues; and that their blood pressure and blood cholesterol levels were dropping significantly. He calculated that the net eduction in cardiovascular disease risk factors as 12 per cent so far. "We are on target for a 20 per cent reduction in risk factors by the end of the project", he stated. In Britain this percentage would mean 40,000 deaths a year fewer, from heart disease and stroke combined.

TALKBACK

Stillborn but still painful

From Margaret Pelling, Oxford Road, Cumnor, Oxford.

I was appalled to learn from your "Comment" column, "Headstone for Baby" (Wednesday Page, March 21) of the crass attitudes of some hospitals and parish councils towards marking babies' graves. I can attest to the comfort brought to parents by being able to put up a headstone which commemorates their baby's life in the same manner as any other human existence.

My second son, John, died when he was nine hours old. His grave, in our village churchyard, is marked by a stone giving full name, date of birth and death and a subdued but fitting epitaph.

This surely demonstrates that there are no "rules" for officials to hide behind. What is possible for one parish council must be possible in the rest of the country, and I would join Hazelanne Lewis in urging officials to adopt more humane attitudes.

From The Rev. Ian W. Williams, The Vicarage, Christ Church Lane, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

I read Hazelanne Lewis' "Headstone for baby" with great interest and no less sympathy.

I was horrified to discover, soon after my arrival in this parish, that stillborn children delivered at a local maternity unit had been buried in my churchyard without ceremony, in unmarked graves.

Last year I was contacted by a mother whose stillborn son had been buried here 10 years ago. It was evident that she had never begun the process of grief. We were able to locate the general area of the burial, hold a brief service, and arrange for a memorial stone

I feel sure that this provided a very necessary "trigger" for that mother's grief. I am resolved never again to allow stillborn children to be buried in my churchyard in unmarked graves and without ceremony, and to try and encourage parental involvement in any funeral.

I hope that other parents will find a more sympathetic ear from local clergy than they appear to receive from some hospital and burial authorities.

Training poll

From Philip Gaisford, Carpmael Building, Temple, London EC4Y 7AT

The report by Marcel Berlins and Clare Dyer (Friday Page, March 16) raises profound questions about the training of our judiciary, but is sadly lacking in evidence to support its implied preference for the continental system. To ascertain the facts objectively, I suggest that at the very least a poll of prisoners on the Continent should have been conducted by way of questionnaire. I hesitantly suggest the following:

1. Do you feel that your next sentence should be passed by:
   (a) someone who had had daily experience of putting forward the merits of defendants and urging leniency upon the courts, or
   (b) a career judge seeking promotion?
2. Would you prefer that your next trial be conducted by:
   (a) someone with 25 years of daily practical experience of protecting your rights, or
   (b) the young jack-in-office who put you here?
3. Please indicate your preference for the personal appearance of your next judge:
   (a) someone who "could be taken for a middle-rank business executive", or
   (b) someone ressembling an assistant stage-hand at a provincial repertory company, a retired research chemist, a bus conductor, or other.

Insurance test

From R A Barnett, Franchise, Saxonwood Road, Battle, Sussex.

I do not think that Mr J R Spencer (Friday Page, March 23) has properly researched his subject.

I am insured by the Commercial Union (not by choice but because they took over the British General, with whom I was happily insured for many years), and annually since I was about 72 (I am now 80) I have had to produce a doctor's certificate stating my fitness to drive. My last one, in June last year, cost me £19. It is perhaps irrelevant to suggest that this is very high payment for a few minutes' work by anyone on their own premises.

I must admit to an accident. It occurred in about 1932 or 1933, and it was one in which no one was hurt.

My point is that I am certified as fit to drive because my insurance company insist on it. I would infinitely rather that my certification was a legal necessity due to an act of Parliament, because then I would probably be able to have it done on the National Health.

From Mrs B Durrant, Chaucer Rd, Cambridge.

I feeled compelled to overcome the habit of a lifetime, that of not writing to *The Times*, in order to support the cause of octogenarian car drivers, of whom I am one. Mr Spencer's exposition (Friday March 23) of the case for removing their licences, or at least subjecting them to compulsory tests, is strangely inadequate. Where are his statistics?

I challenge him to provide a study of accidents caused by octogenarians as compared with accidents caused by, say, male drivers of executive cars, aged between 40 and 50 years. Why should only *old* people who are "demonstrably unfit" be prevented from driving? What about drugs and drink?

Tax privilege

From David G. Lindsay, 36 Orchard Coombe, Whitchurch Hill, Reading.

I am sorry you have seen fit to expend no less than 42 column inches of valuable Times' space in seeking a special tax privilege for a narrow category of parent, when the space could have been more usefully employed pointing out to the Chancellor that there exists a very substantial gap between the minimum cost of acceptably bringing up a child and the amount of the child benefit. This gap has to be bridged by *all*, not merely some, parents supporting minor children.

I would have thought that everyone, including the childless, would consider it right and fair that all who support children should be entitled to a child tax allowance of an amount commensurate with the adult single allowance, but reduced by the amount of the child benefit, eg. a tax allowance of about £1,200 for older children and £900 for younger.

Child tax allowances at these figures would take many poor families out of the tax net altogether and make the whole tax system much fairer as between those supporting and those not supporting children.

Next week
Monday Page meets the vegetarian eaters

CORRECTION

The figure of £60m a year given for the value of cigarettes smoked by 11 to 16-year olds in a recent government survey (Monday Page, March 12) was extrapolated from an inquiry among 5,000 children and did not apply only to the subjects of the survey.



THE TIMES DIARY

A melting appeal

Neil Kinnock ought perhaps to drop his pop-video co-star Tracy Ullman in favour of Vera Lynn if he is planning a double act for a sing-song on Monday night at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, to raise money for the European elections. The Labour leader is going to bellow "Keep right on to the end of the road" for the benefit of 1,200 pensioners, with accompanying vocals from Barbara Castle and Jack Jones, the former union leader. At the finale, Kinnock will jump, not from a cake, but a 300lb butter mountain. To publicize the scandal of the EEC surpluses, Kinnock will distribute the packs – each in a specially-printed wrapper proclaiming it to be a "bit of the butter mountain" – free to pensioners. Interesting. Since when has the Manchester Co-op – who I discover donated the packs – harboured a butter mountain?

Bugs and bores

Viewers of the first political interview ever granted in Soviet Russia to western television, "War and Peace: The View from Moscow" – to be shown on Channel 4 on Sunday – should not be fooled by the impromptu demeanour of the Russian officials who participate. The Producer, Nick Fraser, tells me that General Starodubov, the Kremlin's nuclear expert, and General Zagladin, the ideology mouthpiece, knew every detail of the interview in advance, his bedroom having been "bugged". Fraser claims to have uncovered the identity of the person who planted the "bug" – an Intourist guide – after a Soviet official made a slip to the programme interviewer, Donald Trelford, editor of *The Observer*.

Kremlin watchers keen to know more about Chernenko will be disappointed. Zhores Medvedev, Andropov's biographer, whose brother Roy is under KGB surveillance in Moscow, has refused a request by his publishers Basil Blackwell to write a Chernenko biography "because he is such a bore." Medvedev, who works as a scientist in North London, tells me that Suslov, a member of the Politburo, has the reputation of being the ultimate bore. Chernenko, he says, is worse.

Seeing red

The cover of the latest issue of the Soviet weekly *New Times* carries the headline "Tories against the unions", and shows a white-haired stocky figure being manhandled while police look on. Unfortunately the man being assaulted is Ian MacGregor, NCB chairman, who was pushed to the ground in the melée.

Literary prise

Though David Pinner, the author, denies it, the hero of his book *There'll Always Be An England*, to be published in May, seems to be modelled on Dr Stephen Haseler, co-founder of the SDP. Pinner has even dedicated it to Dr Haseler, who has been sent a copy for his approval.

Like Haseler, Pinner's hero Roy Hampton defects from the Labour party to the SDP. He does so as a Labour MP – a status Haseler never achieved, despite two attempts as a candidate of the party – at Saffron Walden in 1966, and Maldon in 1970. The book ends with defector Hampton pledging to prise Healey, Hattersley, Shore and Callaghan from the Labour Party, while on his Tory hit list are Heath, Pym, Walker, Prior and Gilmour. I wonder.

BARRY FANTONI



"And how high, do you suppose, they rate staying married to Neville?"

Clearing house

Libel case devotees are to be deprived of the spectacle of one part of the Trafalgar House empire suing another part. Speculation arose when Trafalgar's homebuilding subsidiary New Ideal Holdings objected to a report in *The Standard* (half owned by Trafalgar House) which erroneously suggested that some of its houses were built on the site of a contaminated rubbish tip. A swift and fulsome correction assuaged New Ideal before any writs could fly, but not before the paper's *Standard* editor, Lou Kirby, fired off a scathing memo to his staff, reiterating established policy that any stories about Trafalgar House companies must be cleared with him before publication.

PHS

How Tina changed her wardrobe

Sarah Hogg examines the state of the economy three years after 364 experts attacked the government's basic strategy

Today is the third anniversary of a quite remarkable achievement in academic cooperation: the economics profession's mass assault upon the Thatcher Government. The old joke that five economists will give you six different opinions (two of them from Keynes) springs from an argumentative diversity in the trade that militates against widespread agreement on almost anything. Yet here were 364 economists, including five former chief economic advisers (the top economics job in government) and 76 professors, prepared to agree on a statement rejecting "the Government's belief that by deflating demand they will bring inflation permanently under control and thereby induce an automatic recovery in output and employment." The Government's "present policies", the signatories agreed, "will deepen the depression."

The country was not noticeably grateful. Ordinary mortals think almost as little of economists as they do of politicians, and were not impressed by the list of luminaries. The statement (which we reprint in full on page 20, with the present opinions of some of the most distinguished signatories) had one obvious weakness, eagerly seized upon by government: the signatories insisted there were alternatives to Thatcherism, but were not prepared to endorse any particular one.

Perhaps that was fair enough: 1981 was the heyday of Tina – Mrs Thatcher's provoking insistence that There Is No Alternative – and the academics were concerned merely to dethrone this new economic goddess. But the statement, fatally, made it sound as if the alternatives were two-a-penny, plentiful, costless – an unintentional naivety that rebounded on the signatories.

A worse mistake was in their timing. March 1981, turned out to be almost exactly the bottom of the slump; since then national output has risen nearly 8 per cent. Inflation, meanwhile, has continued falling, from 13 per cent then to about 5 per cent now. Rather more than coincidentally, by 1981 the government's most glaring mistakes were behind it. While it was possible, that year, to complain that the mix of monetary and budgetary policies was still too tight, there was a new and courageous coherence between the two.

Even with hindsight, however, the major signatories have not much changed their views. They have three overlapping arguments. First, that there has not really been an economic recovery at all; second, that such an upturn as there has been in production has come about because policies were quietly changed; and third, that the government's claim to have rejected inflation permanently will not really be tested until there is a proper recovery.

There is force in all three arguments. Unemployment has continued to rise, to the government's discomfiture; in this sense, the depression has got much worse since 1981. Government policy did change, intentionally or unintentionally, in ways that boosted demand. Consumer spending was stimulated by the unwrapping of credit controls (just as investment is now being artificially stimulated by the phased abolition of capital allowances against corporation tax). And public spending turned out to be higher than planned. All these help to strengthen the recovery, which even so has barely brought the level of output back to its 1979 level. It is true, too, that the test of the government's counter-inflation strategy will only come when the labour market tightens – and we can see what happens to wages.

But whatever the signatories now say they actually meant, they were certainly not understood at the time to be predicting a turnround to the 3 per cent growth and 5 per cent inflation we saw last year and are likely to see again during this. While it is too soon for the government to claim convincingly that it has conquered inflation, its critics should be wary of confident assertions that it will soon be rising again. And there is just a hint, in their arguments today, of trying to have the Government both ways: claiming that ministers are undercover Keynesians, while simultaneously complaining they are not Keynesian enough.

Where both sides, by and large, got the economy wrong was in failing to guess what the extreme monetary pressures of 1979-81 would do to industry. On the Government's side, this led to too much optimism on unemployment – since 1981 the modest growth it has been aiming for has not been enough to match the rise in industrial productivity, which means it has not been enough to prevent unemployment rising. On its critics' side, this has led to too much pessimism on inflation – that sharp rise in productivity meant costs and prices slowed down unexpectedly fast.

Unfortunately, this common error has done nothing to bring the two sides together. The round-robin has left the Government with a grievance against the economics profession – a more pointed example of its general impatience with the public sector. It is a rare speech by Government apologists on the economic recovery that does not begin by raising an easy laugh at the expense of the 364.

Academics who venture into the political battlefield must be prepared to take what comes. The 364 have made themselves a natural target. It would be nice, just the same, to see more meeting of minds, less defensive trench warfare over what is supposed to be an academic discipline. He-who-is-not-for-me-is-against-me is not a good motto for scientific debate.

David Miller on the England rugby tour likely to be approved today

Foul play but still a try against apartheid?

The current issue of *Rugby Post* carries a travel agent's advertisement with the dates of the main fixtures for the England tour of South Africa. There is little doubt that the Rugby Football Union will decide in London today to undertake a trip with implications, good and bad, far beyond the self-interested and parochial reasons of justification.

There are hardline protagonists on both sides of the international debate. The Bishop of Liverpool, David Sheppard, and Bishop Trevor Huddleston, 13 years a pastor amid black South African poverty, together with Peter Hain, represent in Britain the religious-political alliance which makes the international sporting boycott its moral platform with United Nations backing. The spurious Freedom in Sport campaign led by Lord Chalfont exemplifies the general rugby mood which says to hell with politicians.

The most pragmatic questions are consistently overlooked in the soul-searching about breaking or maintaining the boycott, whether as operated by Commonwealth governments under the Gleneagles agreement or by international sports federations such as the International Olympic Committee and FIFA. The questions are:

Would the long-term welfare of coloured and black South Africans be improved by a limited renewal of sporting links? Would such sporting relationships be the catalyst to accelerate internal liberalism by the South African government, something external, non-economic, ideological sanctions are unlikely to achieve? Can sport alone keep open a door which, if left closed, could hasten a bloody revolution-andis that what some factions really want?

In the past week I have discussed the imminent tour with black and coloured Africans who hold different views. Among those who are vehemently opposed to the tour are Chief Abraham Ordia of Nigeria, president of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, and Sam Ramsamy, chairman of the South African Non-racial Olympic Committee (Sanroc), an external organization financed by the UN. Both men attended last week's Commonwealth Games Federation meeting in London.

It was Ordia who initiated moves towards the boycott on October 1, 1960, the day Nigeria gained independence from Britain. The Rome Olympics had ended the day before, and Ordia confronted Avery Brundage, then president of the IOC, with the Olympic Charter, claiming its regulations demanded South Africa's exclusion on grounds of racial discrimination.

In 1967, before the Mexico Olympics, Ordia said he would accept South Africa's entry if integrated merit trials were held, even if outside the country in Swaziland or what was then Rhodesia. The Pretoria government refused. I asked why, if he was prepared then to accept such a possible compromise, he now rejects the relatively substantial concession which have been achieved.

Ramsamy answered for them. A former South African teacher, he is confident that the IOC would not act without the approval of the Supreme Council and Sanroc; and there could be no end to the boycott while racial segregation laws were still part of the constitution.

Another argument, albeit anathema to both the church and the UN, does unquestionably exist within black/coloured South Africa. Curnick Mdyesha, president of the black SA Rugby Association and a member of the integrated (previously white) SA Rugby Board, which is led by Danie Craven, is adamant that compromise and change by degrees is the only peaceful hope for a mixed South African society.

Visiting London last week, Mdyesha cited how the board paid full-time coaches for the Association, the 50,000 mixed schoolchildren who attended the board's coaching courses last year, the 17 Western Province coloured school teams in open competition, the white parents who oppose white headmasters attempting to exclude pupils from mixed play, the national under-13 championship in which blacks beat whites, the 26 new integrated cricket clubs formed since December, 1983.

Mdyesha is sceptical about the UN anti-Apartheid slogan, "No normal sport in an abnormal society". What society is normal, he asks. He points instead to the 15 per cent coloured and black pupils in private schools who constitute a tiny but significant 0.75 per cent of the school population (even that was unthinkable a few years ago), and to the black students encroaching the Afrikaner stronghold of Stellenbosch University. "If sport is open, how can the Group Areas Act [which restricts inland travel for non-white South Africans] remain a permanent reality? The moderate blacks, coloureds and whites must get between the black and white extremes to prevent the explosion," he says.

Duggie Dyers, a coloured Springbok rugby selector, is even more emphatic, claiming that 80 per cent of coloured sport is integrated, not 1 per cent as alleged by Peter Hain on this page on Wednesday. Referring to the incident of Colin Croft, the West Indian cricketer removed from a whites-only railway carriage, Dyers says: "I would be prepared, for the moment, to travel home with the devil himself, because the integrated rugby or cricket match I have attended will determine, ultimately, how soon the trains are changed. Sport has shown the government how to move; it has opened the hotels and restaurants."

Forsaking the substantial financial advantages to be gained from his builder's trade, Dyers instead risked being labelled an Uncle Tom "to encourage my people to be reasonable instead of spreading antagonism and violence. I stand totally against any form of apartheid but I am not prepared to pin my hopes on people outside South Africa. There is a new order of whites; the old order will die out. The England rugby tour will make little difference. An integrated South African Olympic team would be one of the greatest in the world. What would that do for our people?"

What will be the effect of an England tour? Sir Arthur Gold, chairman of English Commonwealth Games Council, will not accept any political manipulation of the code of conduct but yesterday he sent a letter of protest to the Rugby Union, as required.

Sir Arthur stresses that England can be suspended or expelled only for "gross non-fulfilment" of the Gleneagles Declaration, but he admits that the rugby tour will inevitably draw hostile propaganda against all English sport.

Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, believes the next few weeks "will be very difficult for Commonwealth sports". He is worried not only for the Commonwealth and Olympic games but for rugby itself. He is committed by Gleneagles to "advise" against the tour, but no more.

Cyril Kobus, the black general manager of the fully integrated National Professional Soccer League, South Africa's major sporting event for predominantly black crowds, echoes his rugby colleagues when he says: "We would welcome readmission to international football if that were possible, irrespective of social and political conditions."

Undoubtedly sport offers a major influencing force – *within* the country. The world sporting bodies could set rigorous terms, down to school level, as the price of selective readmission. The Rugby Union is probably right to go but for the wrong reasons, since it is demanding no concessions. Any moral righteousness is for its own members rather than black people.



England's Rugby Union team in action against New Zealand's All Blacks. The proposed South African tour is vigorously opposed by activists like Chief Abraham Ordia, top, and Sam Ramsamy

Prayers and pistols at the great Sikh temple

Amritsar

The Golden Temple in Amritsar, the most holy shrine of the Sikh religion, has become an armed camp. At one entrance a well-built warrior stretches in a chair, nursing an old but lovingly polished twelve-bore shotgun. At doorways around the temple buildings, men with dense turbans, bristling beards and bare legs carelessly handle Lee Enfield .303 rifles. Enthusiastic young men lean nonchalantly on sterling sub-machine guns, or SLRs.

The militant leaders at the temple, of whom the most prominent is Sant Jarnail Bhindranwale, sport .45 calibre revolvers or Browning 9mm automatic pistols – bandoliers of ammunition around their necks.

What happens if the government tries to enter the temple to arrest the alleged terrorists hiding inside? "We shall," says Sant Bhindranwale, smiling, "make them chew iron lentils."

It is as though Westminster Cathedral were patrolled by men with tommy guns and police from Scotland Yard were prevented from entering. Sandbag redoubts guard the roofs of the lodging houses surrounding the golden temple, others reinforce staircases vulnerable to infantry. Brick strongpoints with rifle loopholes have appeared among the domes and kiosks of the front entrance of the temple.

It is no surprise to find that the Sikhs are armed. Even at the best of times Sikh warriors who have dedicated their lives to the militant support of their religion – are found in Sikh temples. Usually, though, they are armed simply with cutlasses and spears. Guru Gobind Singh – after Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, the man who gave Sikhism it most distinctive characteristics – laid down that all Sikhs must always be armed.

The Sikhs, too, are used to violent resistance and to martyrdom. Early leaders were executed by the Moguls and Pathans. The Sikh kingdom built by Maharajah Ranjit Singh was the last area of independent India to fall under British rule.

But the embattlement of the Golden Temple also represents a strain of paranoia in the Sikh psyche. Some regret that at the time of independence when the Muslims got a separate state, the Sikhs did not get an independent "Khalistan". Since then, Sikh activists have feared that the distinctive Sikh identity would be swallowed in an ocean of Hinduism.

Harminder Singh Sandhul, a student zealot, an ardent follower of Sant Bhindranwale and general secretary of the recently banned Sikh Student Federation, ticked off the four fears. Sikh students were being seduced by Marxism. They were being led astray by "luxurious living – including the use of drugs, some were turning to Brahmanism and some were being tempted into the evil of Nirankari, a Sikh heresy which rejects the precepts of the gurus.

Curiously, the residents of the richest agricultural state in the Union, who provide the Indian armed forces with a disproportionate number of their best soldiers and who are on average better-off than the rest of the population, believe that they are victims of discrimination. The sharing of Punjab's river water with other states, for example, was regarded as an attempt to deprive Punjab farmers of their most vital asset. The Sikh agitation which began 19 months ago has accordingly become more and more bitter. Every move by the government to put down terrorist activities has been seen by the Sikhs as a deliberate move against Sikhs rather than just against rebels.

The Golden Temple has been the focal point of both the peaceful agitation and extremest action. Many fugitives from the police are sheltered inside it. When a deputy inspector-general of police was shot on the terrace outside the temple, his assailant was seen to run back into its sanctuary.

There are therefore those who say the temple should be raided by the forces of law and order. If the government does raid the temple, reaction will be explosive throughout Punjab, in areas where there are Sikhs – in the rest of India, such as Delhi, and even abroad in London, Melbourne and Toronto. The tension in Amritsar is such that tourists are staying away in droves. Some embassies are advising their nationals not to visit Punjab at all. One lone group of Americans visited the temple last week. They were ecstatic about the atmosphere of the holy place, and visited it at night under a full moon. "But," said Mr Flave Peters from Arkansas, "those men with the guns... it was eerie."

Michael Hamlyn

David Watt

A pillar of hope for the EEC

I still believe instinctively that the European Economic Community will resolve the central tangle of the British contribution, the budget and the agricultural policy, and that it will move quite soon to higher things. On the other hand, the immediate evidence to the contrary obviously forces anyone in this precarious state of mind to ask himself whether he is not suffering from that well-known malady, lingering sentimentality aggravated by optimistic delusions.

The case for pessimism is a strong one – stronger even than most people realize. The problem lies less in the actual clash of interests or even the amounts of cash involved (intractable though these are) than in the psychological attitudes that have grown up on all sides during the course of a decade.

What make matters so difficult is the weary, and by now quite ineradicable, conviction on the Continent that it is the mean-minded and intolerably insular British who are preventing the Community from living happily ever after, and the equally deep-seated belief of the British that they are being taken for a ride by a bunch of crafty and rapacious peasants.

The tendency of these stereotypes to generate, and then justify, all kinds of error and bloody-mindedness is horribly illustrated by the commercial débâcle at last week's summit and since. Mrs Thatcher appears at the counter and grinds on for hour after hour with her old haggle; her partners become tired and irritated out of their wits, having heard it all a hundred times before.

Chancellor Kohl, in an excess of exasperation and an ox-like well-meaning, blunders into the carefully arranged French china; Mrs T belabours his rump and knocks over anything in the shop that he has left intact; the foreign ministers stand arguing in the wreckage; and the onlookers, each from his own point of view, shout: "We told you so".

Why then you may ask, am I so convinced that we are still in business? Partly perhaps, it *is* sentiment. But it is not all wishful thinking. I can also see some evidence that the main actors really are aware of the wider context of their own national needs.

Chancellor Kohl, for instance, is clearly conscious that he is in grave danger of being ground to bits between the upper millstone of German domestic politics, which requires that the "opening of the East" should be kept well and truly open, and the nether millstone of the present American obsession with the Soviet menace. He cannot risk the possibility of losing US military and moral support, but equally cannot afford to lower the temperature of East-West relations in Central Europe in a way that German public opinion would regard as gratuitous.

In this difficult spot, the best safety is in numbers. If he can enhance the "European", as opposed to the specifically German, dimension of his differences with Washington, he can hope to avoid the worst consequences of American displeasure – especially if that "European-ness" has a Community gloss on it.

President Mitterrand has slightly different preoccupations. He inherits the national fixation about independence from America suzerainty, but is less inclined than his immediate predecessors for that reason to take an indulgent view of the Soviet Union. On the contrary, his domestic struggle against the Communists within the French left inclines him to take a tough line. This means extreme concern on the part of the present French government at the possible neutralist direction of German policy. Mitterrand's response to this problem has been to preserve the closest possible links with Kohl, in spite of their ideological differences. But it is fairly clear that he does not regard that as being enough. He has taken out insurance in the form of a counter-balancing strategy, which includes more cooperation with Nato, more development of a European identity, and also, in principle, a better Franco-British relationship.

Where does Mrs Thatcher stand? In the past, one would have answered: "A good way offshore". She put most of her money firmly on the Anglo-American relationship at the outset of her prime ministership, and doubled her bet when the "wet" Carter gave way to the decidedly more congenial Reagan. Europe, in her eyes, was not exactly "written off"; she is a realist and has long accepted that our trade and investment patterns make withdrawal a non-starter. On the other hand, she took a minimalist view of the EEC and was not inclined to sacrifice British interests (narrowly defined) in order to enhance its corporate effectiveness.

Now things look a bit different. The Prime Minister is still, of course, an Atlanticist. But since she started to take a strong personal interest in foreign affairs, after the departure of Lord Carrington and the end of the Falklands War, she has become increasingly aware of the fact that US and British interests do not always coincide precisely, and that there are severe limits to the leverage Britain can expect to exert over an unusually self-willed American administration.

The Grenada affair was a traumatic shock to her and if, as it is said, she told President Reagan that Anglo-American relations would never be the same again, she seems to have described at least her own state of mind with some accuracy. President Mitterrand's pitch to her in their bilateral meeting earlier this month – which was that Britain could make a major contribution to the building of a more distinctive European pillar to the "alliance" – apparently fell on ears that were tuned almost for the first time to that long wavelength.

The implications of this conjunction of European interests are potentially enormous, of course – for the individual countries as well as the EEC. It is no good expecting a European "pillar" simply to rise from the earth of its own accord. It would have to be built laboriously out of many stones, such as European defence and foreign policy cooperation, that are still very rough-hewn, to say nothing of some, such as an industrial policy, an energy policy, and a transport policy, that have not yet been cut at all.

Nevertheless, these perspectives are beginning to open up, whether we like it or not, and it is because they are that the financial quarrel will be settled. The EEC is not precisely "doomed to succeed"; human history is too littered with folly and accident for one to be sure of that. But strong external forces are pushing its members together, and they may triumph where human frailty has failed.

Philip Howard

Ten of the best between the covers

We do know, don't we, boys and girls, that lists of best authors are a jolly after-dinner game for those who go in for such things, or an indication that the Book Marketing Council is trying to shift more of its products. Such lists represent no more than the tastes, reading, swank, and cussedness of those who pick them. Nevertheless, we are going to play the game today. We are joining our contemporaries in Europe to select "the ten greatest European writers of all time", without being tiresome by asking what precisely is meant by greatest, pray.

I got into this through the good offices of Our Paris Correspondent, bless her little cotton socks. *Lire* magazine, a sort of down-market Frog *TLS*, is organizing a poll of its readers, and those of *The Times*, *Die Zeit*, *La Stampa*, and *El País*. Readers of these publications in the five countries are being asked to nominate the ten greatest writers of all time in Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Spain. To be considered, the writers must be dead. For the purposes of the game, Germany includes any German-language literature, so you can have Kafka; but Spanish does not include Latin American literature. I take it that we cannot have Virgil under Italian; and I worry about the Irish. No Americans, or other emigrant Brits, anyway.

The polls are being published in the five countries over the next week. Entries must be sent to me, God help me, by April 20. The results will be collated by our computer, that is me, and the results will be published on May 29, just before the European elections.

We shall then be able to announce not only "the ten greatest European authors of all time", but possibly also detect interesting differences between, for example, German and Spanish perceptions of the best British writers. To make things even more vexing, for the purposes of the game, writer is defined as "creative" writer: this means, apparently, poets, novelists, and playwrights, but no historians or philosophers (which is going to make compiling the German list scaly).

Lire and some of the others are publishing suggested lists of names, with little boxes beside them so that their readers can tick those they choose, cut out the page, and send it in as their entry. I have enough trouble writing headlines that do not bust, without attempting to decorate this compact basement area with dozens of little boxes. And I take it that readers of *The Times* are grown-up and literate chaps and chapesses, who can write their own lists without the kiddy's aid of little tables. What you do, if you want to play, is send me your selection of the ten greatest British, French, German, Italian and Spanish writers of all time. Five lists, 150 names in all, if Brits can actually think of the names of ten Spanish or German authors who are not historians or philosophers.

The next thing that happened was that I was asked for my lists, by return telex, in order to help *Lire* compile its little boxes. This caused a certain amount of Lit Crit angst and thumb-sucking. But just for example, I give you my German list: Goethe, Schiller, Heine, Thomas Mann, Lessing (not Doris), Kleist, Rilke, Kafka, Hermann Broch (on the strength of one novel that I have yet to finish, (*Alas, Leopoldo*), though the beginning is marvellous), and Holderlin. For the Spanish list I had to cheat by putting in the unknown author of El Cid. I am not telling you about my British list, except to say that I include Gibbon as a creative writer, even though he was a historian, and Dr Johnson, even though his best book was written by somebody else. I defy you to get in two Brontë sisters, though you ought to try.

I predict that the British list of French writers will include old names like Froissart, Villon and Ronsard, not even considered on the French list, because of the English school curriculum. I predict that Byron will get a higher rating on continental lists than British. I predict that Shakespeare will win the Greatest in Europe Championship by a longish head from Dante and Cervantes. And I predict that I shall regret the whole daft exercise before the year is much older.

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

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CLEANING UP POLICE POWERS

The Commons committee stage of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill ended yesterday. It is claimed the the number of sittings the standing committee devoted to the Bill has not been matched before. The Bill deserved the honour. It redefines and adjusts the law in respect of powers that are required by the police for the prevention and investigation of crime, purposes most people grant a high priority. But the exercise of these powers renders people, who may or may not be criminal, vulnerable to invasion of their liberty and abuse of their rights. Avoidance of excessive powers and safeguards against the abuse of powers are no less important than the grant of the powers themselves. A balance has to be struck and it must permeate the whole structure from first principle to last detail.

The balance is not simply a matter of getting the drafting right where the powers of police or the rights of suspects are defined. In the daily exercise of their duties police officers are likely to be more influenced by practice and custom than attentive to the letter of the statute. To that extent "clean" policing is a function of supervision and management, which underlines the importance of the many passages in the Bill which introduce recording or reporting procedures and implicate senior police officers in the decisions to be taken.

For the same reason the statutory codes of conduct; the promise – still undated – of systematic tape recording of interviews with suspects at police stations; the more independent character of the arrangements for dealing with complaints against the police; and – outside the Bill – the new prosecution service for which legislation is intended next session; all these contribute to the essential balance that is being struck between the effective confrontation of crime and protection of the citizen against abuse at the hands of the state's sanctioned instrument of civil force. The present state of the law is inexcusably incoherent and dubious for so sensitive an area. The Bill as it now stands marks a large improvement, but there is still detailed work to be done.

The practice of detaining suspects for questioning is put on a statutory basis for the first time. Twenty-four hours at a police station before charge or release is put forward as the normal limit, 96 hours in exceptional cases. An important concession was made in committee. The review before a magistrates court with the detainee present and represented, which the Bill stipulates before 36 hours have elapsed, will have to be repeated before the 96 hour limit is reached. Two hearings instead of one. The minister would not however agree to bring the first hearing forward from 36 to 24 hours, which, as measuring the normal interval for detention without charge, would be the approriate point at which to implicate the court. His reasons were administrative: it would overload the magistracy and prematurely interrupt police investigation.

Those reasons are substantial but not compelling when set against the dangers of abuse attendant on detention for questioning without access to a court. In some cases of serious crime the police will not be able to bring their investigation to the point of charge or release within 24 hours of arrest. They should be enabled to continue, but not without the warrant of a court.

Another contentious detail concerns what the Bill calls intimate searches, that is the examination of the mouth and genital and anal passages. These are attested places of occasional criminal concealment for drugs, weapons and other evidence of crime. Last session's Bill made provision for examination of these orifices, preferably by a doctor but otherwise by a police officer of the same sex as the suspect. both for weapons and for evidence of crime. The resurrected Bill confines the purpose of the search to articles that might be used to cause physical injury to the suspect or others.

The only Conservative revolt at the committee was by those who opposed that limitation of the power of intimate search. The minister conceded that there is a price to be paid for it in terms of undetected criminal concealment, but argued that the wider power was not compatible with the requirement that the examination be normally done by a doctor; since the necessary cooperation of doctors would not be available in the absence of consent, save for the removal of potential instruments of injury or death; yet a practice of this form of search by police officers might cause inadvertent injury to suspects, specially if they resisted, and would raise in the public mind a prejudice against police treatment of suspects which might come to affect more important duties than that one.

The minister is right. People are not yet so inured to crime and the fight against it that they will comfortably contemplate licensing the police for that sort of handling. But the Home Secretary should follow his logic through and, at some small further cost to convenience, remove all exceptions to the rule that this is a job for a doctor.

Then there are journalists. They come in where the Bill confers new general powers of search under warrant for evidence of serious crime on premises where no suspicion falls on the occupier. This was the chief battleground of last session's Bill. Clergy, lawyers, doctors, other "caring professions" combined to protest the sanctity of the personal records made in the performance of their respective duties, and won exemption. Representatives of the press, suspecting they might not qualify as a caring profession, hastened to made out that protection from forced disclosure of their confidences was no less a matter of public interest. The Home Secretary obligingly wrote into his Bill a handsome exemption for "journalistic material".

No sooner was the expression down in cold print than the watchdogs of the press began to shiver at a new set of implications. Here was an expression that the courts might feel called upon to define. The journalist might lose his safe and sufficient status as common man – tribune of the people, one with the people. Definition implies classification, classification implies privilege, privilege loss of privilege, loss of privilege restriction, restriction licensing, licensing silencing. The long-suffering Home Secretary is even now considering how next to satisfy these nervous clients.

THE NIT-PICKERS' REVENGE

With the publication of the Finance Bill yesterday, a little of the gilt begins to peel off the Chancellor's gingerbread. Budget Day is a time for overall impressions, and Mr Nigel Lawson managed – to the delight of his backbenchers – to present an image of economic vigour and reforming zeal. This triumph carried him confidently through his post-Budget cross-examination by the Treasury committee of MPs on Wednesday.

But the successive stages of the Finance Bill are a time for detail – for the nit-picker's revenge. Such a lengthy Finance Bill provides plenty of scope. There are. for a start, wholesale changes in corporation tax to be discussed. The abolition of capital allowances, and the lowering of corporation tax, were well-received by industry (rather better received, it seems, than the Government expected).

While the corporation tax changes are at least clear and strategically sensible, more general question marks hang over the Chancellor's changes in personal tax. Naturally, the abolition of tax relief on life assurance premiums will attract some parliamentary trouble – but life assurance companies have by now swallowed their bitter pill, and there are no major new shocks for them in the Finance Bill. (The bill does however make it clear that the new rules are being drawn very tightly, so any change in a pre-Budget policy will tip it out of the tax-protected category). There will be a parliamentary row, with more justification, over the extension of the composite rate of income tax on interest from building societies to banks: it is a huge restriction of freedom of choice for non-taxpayers.

And this concern touches on the most obvious question about the Budget. While seeking to restore industrial incentives, encourage wider share ownership and begin the painful tax of rationalizing income tax, does it do enough for society's have-nots, the unemployed, the disabled, the elderly, the poor? Half this question cannot be answered, because this year the Government is leaving all announcements on social security benefits until June. But it is fairly clear that the Government has chosen to help those on low incomes by raising tax thresholds, not benefits, more than inflation – and raised some doubts by doing so.

The Chancellor has angered pressure groups for the retired by concentrating his tax cuts on the single and married tax allowances, leaving age allowances untouched in real terms. This is justifiable: it enabled him to give most help to families with children, stuck in the worst of Britain's poverty traps. In hard cash, however, an increase in allowances gives most to the high-paid, which is why an increase in child benefit, which goes also to families outside the tax net, is widely supposed to be the most cost-effective way of relieving poverty. Mr Lawson's answer to that, delivered to the Treasury committee this week, was that child benefit is an indiscriminate weapon too: only 15 per cent of the unemployed, for example, have children of child benefit age.

This remains a critical area of government policy where its strategy is far from clear. A small token of humanity was given yesterday; along with the Finance Bill came the announcement that the extension of Vat to building alterations will not apply to conversions for the disabled. The bigger issues of social policy remain unresolved.

THIS GAME IS NOT THE ONLY THING

Questions of international sport have become complicated and difficult. The English Rugby Football Union meeting this morning to decide whether to accept an invitation to tour South Africa should find itself discussing problems of politics and morality and peering at future consequences in fields other than rugby. It is to be hoped that at the end it will decide not to send a team.

To rehearse some familiar arguments, external opponents of apartheid have found in a sports boycott their most effective weapon. The refusal of international sportsmen to play games with white South Africans has awakened their conscience as nothing else has. It has also produced changes: there is now a degree of integration in most sports, including the upper echelons of rugby. This is taken by some to be an argument in favour of relaxing boycotts and allowing tours.

The fact is, however, that apartheid remains; the South African system is still uniquely abhorrent in that it gives the force of law to prejudice; it is based on the theory that some men may be adjudged less than full citizens because of the colour of their skin. This is insulting to the world.

Informed political commentators will tell the English Rugby Football Union that changes are taking place in South Africa now and more must take place in future if violent chaos is to be avoided. The question is whether the present tentative moves are to lead to a real and acceptable sharing of power or whether they are merely a redrawing of the boundaries of apartheid. This is a time when international pressure should be maintained and not relaxed.

There will be some at the English Rugby Football Union meeting who will argue that all this is not their business; they merely wish to kick a ball around with a lot of friendly people. But the truth is that they are in the business of politics, willy-nilly. One of the consequences of a tour will be that Mr Piet Botha, the Prime Minister, will claim, implicitly or explicitly, that this is a sign that the world approves of his efforts at reform. The further implication is that he need do no more.

Another consequence will be that Britain's international relations in other sports are likely to be disrupted if a rugby tour takes place. In particular, African nations might stay away from the Olympic Games later this year and attempt to exclude England from the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh next year. These threats are illogical – rugby is not an Olympic sport and the Commonwealth Games involves entirely different people – but they are real.

It needs to be emphasized that whether to tour is a matter for the English Rugby Football Union to decide. The Government has advised against the tour, as it was bound to do under the Gleneagles agreement, but there can be no question of any compulsion. British citizens are free to behave abroad in a way that embarrasses others, black or white, as they wish. All that can be asked is that this morning's meeting remains aware that larger issues are involved. The rugby pitch is not an island, entire of itself.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time for breaking the EEC mould?

From Mr Alfred Latham-Koenig

Sir, In your editorial of March 22 ("A drama, but not a crisis") you write: "Mrs Thatcher must hang on until" she gets a solution "that meets Britain's essential interest." Yes, but not until the cracks in the European construction widen to the point of threatening the whole edifice. She must above all modify her negotiating style, which profoundly irritates and antagonizes her EEC partners.

True, the French also pursue their national interests with undivided vigour. But they do it with greater elegance and less stridency and cleverly dress those interests, whenever they can, in *communautaire* clothes. They also appear to show a greater sense of European history and to pay more attention to their partners' views and idiosyncracies.

What Mrs. Thatcher lacks above all is having at her side, instead of a competent and subservient tax lawyer in her own mould, a Foreign Minister more in the mould of Lord Carrington who, during his tenure at the Foreign Office, earned the respect of his European colleagues for his statesmanship and breadth of vision.

Yours faithfully,
ALFRED LATHAM-KOENIG,
11 Bigwood Road,
Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11.
March 27.

Hayward as 'showcase'

From the Secretary of the Royal Academy

Sir, I would not wish in any way to belittle the remarkable achievements of the Hayward Gallery under Arts Council management, or to question the valid points made by Mr Bryan Robertson (March 27); but he surely goes too far in claiming that it is the "main 'official' international-calibre exhibition centre for London, and as such our *only* equivalent to the Grand Palais in Paris for shows arranged with foreign governments."

The record speaks for itself: over the past two years alone the Royal Academy has put on exhibitions at Burlington House in cooperation with Japan, the People's Republic of China, the United States of America, France, Nigeria, Spain, the Netherlands and Italy.

In some cases these were "official" exhibitions illustrating the culture of a particular country. In others, the Royal Academy mounted them in partnership with national institutions (the Prado, the National Gallery of Art (Washington), the Grand Palais, etc).

Of course, Burlington House is not an "official" centre, in that it receives no revenue grant from the Arts Council or any other public source. But it has enjoyed the advantage of government indemnity for each of these exhibitions, and in a number of cases it has worked in amicable partnership with the Arts Council.

No, the real case for retaining the Hayward and the Serpentine Gallery under Arts Council management would seem to lie rather in their unfailing and unrivalled support for contemporary art in this country.

I am, Sir, yours etc,
PIERS RODGERS, Secretary,
The Royal Academy of Arts,
Piccadilly, W1.
March 27.

Posts at La Scala

From the Artistic Director of La Scala, Milan

Sir, I take the liberty of writing to you in order to give first-hand and clear information about a report referring to La Scala (March 23).

The report suggests that the appointments of both Mr Abbado and Mr Muti were consequent on the support of two political parties represented on the board of administrators of La Scala.

The level of such a decision and of such musicians is totally above parties. This is proved by the unanimous vote which the board of administrators of La Scala gave to both appointments.

Regards,
CESARE MAZZONIS,
Artistic Director,
Teatro Scala,
Milan,
Italy.
March 27.

Keeping defence enterprise in trim

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton

Sir, Many of the arguments, and consequent proposals, for reorganizing the management of defence, published by the Defence Secretary in his Open Government Document 84/03, will be welcome to those of us who have struggled to make the present system work to the best advantage of our national security.

But Field Marshal Lord Carver's letter (March 21) and his explicit warnings of where these proposals go too far deserve warm support.

I would emphasize in particular the danger in supposing, as the Defence Secretary's paper appears to do, that there is some natural division between policy and management or between the so-called "support functions" of personnel and logistics on the one hand and operational capability on the other.

For the raising, training, equipping and deployment of the front line of all three Services might appear to the inexperienced to be a "management" function, but their subsequent operational posture depends entirely on how well, or ill, that function is performed.

It demands, as Lord Carver rightly points out, single Service staffs adequate in numbers, experience and skill to support and advise the professional head of each Service if he is to be capable of meeting the centrally stated requirements of Government defence policy.

This raises the closely related point concerning the function of the Vice-Chiefs of Staff, whose posts the Defence Secretary expects to lapse.

These three men are by common consent the hardest worked members of their Service boards and are responsible for drawing together the whole wide span of what I described above as the apparent management function. It is illusory to suppose that their work will somehow disappear, for it is neither self-generated nor composed of "each other's washing".

Even if it were thought expedient, for the sake of some apparent tidiness, to abolish these posts, officers of similar seniority and experience would have to be appointed to the staff of the CDS.

It is lower down the organizational tree that important savings could be made by a reorganization on the general lines proposed. Some posts at the two-star level (uniformed and civilian), with many more at the one-star and "red colonel" level, should at once come to hand, especially in the staffs dealing with plans, commitments and operational requirements.

The whole defence enterprise is, as Lord Carver says, a highly sensitive balancing act, and it is to be earnestly hoped that the Defence Secretary will not allow the balance to be falsely tipped by paper solutions which may look neat as an organigram, but take insufficient account of the real difficulty of successfully running an £18bn-a-year business employing half-a-million people, on which the very lives and the very way of life of our fifty-five million people in the end depend.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
HILL-NORTON,
House of Lords.

Miss Tisdall's case

From Dr H. G. ApSimon

Sir, Miss Tisdall has done two things. She has taken a copy of a document belonging to her employers, the content of which her employers wished to keep secret, and given it to someone else; and she has caused the publication of material classified as secret.

The first offence is one known to almost every employer. For it there are civil remedies. (Though, in the case of an isolated offence, even the punishment of dismissal might be seriously contested as excessive at a hearing before an industrial tribunal.)

The second offence is one that, if committed, was certainly also committed by *The Guardian*. The fact that the editor of *The Guardian* has not been prosecuted for it is an admission, tacit but compelling, that the material was not in fact secret and so should never have been classified as such. (Had Miss Tisdall been prosecuted solely for "publication" of the document that *The Guardian* did *not* publish, that would have been a different story. But, by all the accounts that I have seen, she was not.)

This raises the question (and I ask it not rhetorically but genuinely seeking the answer): does the mere fact that someone with appropriate authority classifies a document as secret automatically make that document in fact a secret one? Surely a necessary condition is that be acted reasonably in so purporting to classify it?

In other fields judges have held that some putative decisions by officials, whether they be policemen or secretaries of state, have been unreasonable and so, not being made in the proper exercise of an authority, have been without authority.

If the same test of reasonableness does not apply to the classification of state documents then some interesting, and alarming, consequences are apparent.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
H. G. ApSIMON,
Badgers' Sett,
Old Bisley Road,
Frimley, Surrey.
March 25.

From Mr Jonathan Sayeed, MP for Bristol East (Conservative)

Sir, Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act is again under attack, but its critics must recognize the damage caused to the quality of government decision-making by unauthorized disclosure of confidential information.

Civil servants are in a position of trust, have access to sensitive information by virtue of their work, and are employed to serve a democratically elected government.

It is an arrogant denial of the process of democracy for civil servants to don the mantle of arbiter of the public good. If they feel so strongly about a matter they have the opportunity to transfer, leave the service or even stand for Parliament.

But there is another deeply disturbing implication of this betrayal of trust. No government will fully investigate the many options inherent in any policy decision unless it is confident that its deliberations will remain private. The result of "leaking" is that documents have narrower circulation and fewer people are consulted. "Leaking" is an obstacle to better informed goverment and thus leads to poorer government.

I wonder whether those who "tell all" realize the damage their disclosures cause their fellow citizens.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN SAYEED,
House of Commons,
March 26.

In pursuit of truth

From the Reverend Michael Burgess, SSC

Sir, Sweeping generalisations are usually way off target, immoderate and lacking in substantiated evidence. That said, can there be any fear of contradiction when I say that journalists as a breed are the biggest crowd of self-righteous hypocrites in contemporary society?

Quite apart from the Olympian tone with which they attempt to drape their every pronouncement, even on matters where they possess the merest fraction of a half-truth, their attitude toward the Christian Church in general has become boringly hysterical. What truth do they think to pursue?

The Poulner affair has brought forth the latest outburst of indignant journalistic wind. Even you, Sir, write that "The Church would be very unwise to try to put that point across by making a public example of invidiously selected and identifiable individuals" (leading article, March 23).

Pray, Sir, is this not the daily behaviour of these self-appointed "guardians of freedom" toward those luckless individuals who have the misfortune to fall into their sight?

It ill becomes the profit-seeking media, largely involved with titillating trivia and character assasination, to lay down the law about the weightier matter of fair play. Rather, it is a matter of "Journalist, heal thyself!"

Yours truly,
MICHAEL BURGESS,
Church of the Annunciation,
Bryanston Street, W1.
March 23.

Local radio in France

From Mr Brian Lewis

Sir, Professor Day is naive in writing (March 22) that local radio in France carries no advertising and is supported by voluntary contributions.

It is true that the law of 1982 which created the High Authority authorized it to license private radio stations, of which there may eventually be 1,000 in France. It is also true that it prohibits them from advertising and that they are financed by supporters' associations, but the contributions to the associations, far from being voluntary, are for services rendered and every local station has its rate card.

To be brief on a subject with the constant variations efficient advertising agencies develop, there are three main forms of advertising:

1. Broadcasting a well known commercial jingle and, instead of the company name, an announcer will say, "To learn how to purchase furniture on the easiest possible terms telephone . . ." Or announcers tediously repeating "The time by my --- watch is now . . ." Or by a service to the public with local shopping tips.
2. By selling programme time to local political parties, or authorities or banks, by commercial houses sponsoring programmes which they think will please a particular public, and it is of course open house for record companies.
3. Preparing programmes in the form of cassettes for products with blank space for the comments of the local critics, which are read from accompanying texts.

The High Authority is perfectly aware of what is going on, but to stop it requires proof in the form of declarations from the statutory body which supervises advertising standards, which does not have the funds to undertake the task.

There is, however, one station which is kept in comfort by voluntary subscriptions – Frequency Gay – here in the heart of Paris.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN LEWIS,
39 Avenue Victor-Hugo,
75116 Paris.

Benefits for low-paid

From Mr Brian Dodgeon

Sir, The article (March 14) explaining the Budget increases in tax allowances wrongly concluded that these give more cash to the lower-paid at the expense of higher-rate taxpayers.

The increase of £360 in the married man's allowance means an extra £2.08 a week to married men and lone parents with incomes between £3,155 and £17,755, because they are allowed £360 more income free of tax at 30 per cent. But for those earning over £39,155 it means an extra £4.16 a week, because (quite apart from the alterations in the higher-rate tax bands) they are allowed £360 more income free of tax at *60 per cent*.

At the other end of the scale, lone parents and married men earning less than £2,795 have gained nothing at all.

You claim "the Chancellor's motives were clear – raising personal allowances releases many from the poverty trap and provides added incentives to work". The people this refers to are, for example, the lone parents and married men earning between £2,795 and £3,155 who are "taken out of tax altogether".

Although this sounds good, the amount they have gained is *less* than everyone else, because they were all too poor to be paying as much as £2.08 a week in tax anyway.

The problem of the poverty trap is still as bad as ever. A typical lone parent with two school-age children earning £85 a week gross actually *loses* 6½p by getting a £1 pay rise because of the swingeing cuts in housing benefit which went through Parliament in February. Lone parents on well below average incomes lost anything up to £10 a week. These cuts were billed as being "essential" to reduce the social security budget by £185m.

Such figures now seem tiny in comparison to the amounts given to the wealthy on Tuesday – £360m in abolishing investment-income surcharge, £450m in changes in stamp duty for shareholders and those with mortgages over £25,000, £1,200m in reduced corporation tax and £50m in reduced capital transfer tax.

No one should be in any doubt, this was a Budget for the higher-paid at the expense of the lower-paid.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN DODGEON,
National Council for One Parent Families,
255 Kentish Town Road, NW5.
March 15.

Qualified ban on heavy lorries

From Mr Dave Wetzel

Sir, The Chairman of Safeway recently criticized in your columns (March 24) our proposals for a night and weekend heavy lorry ban as being bad for both the environment and economy of London.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Originally the GLC set up the Wood inquiry to investigate a complete 24-hour ban of all heavy lorries in London. As a result of the Wood inquiry team's report the GLC is proposing to ban heavy lorries at night and weekends.

We are also considering many important exemptions from the ban: Major roads with no housing: Saturday mornings: the new quiet heavy lorry or heavy lorries fitted with a hush kit: those industries and firms which would be seriously disrupted by the ban.

The effect of this ban will be:

1. The 50 per cent of all lorry journeys which have no business in London but use us as a through route at night and weekends will be excluded.
2. Many heavy lorries which have to use London will be modified to become more quiet.
3. Many heavy lorries will stick to major roads with no housing instead of taking short cuts through our local residential streets.
4. All of London's roads will witness a dramatic reduction in heavy lorry movements at night and at weekends.

I believe this reasonable policy will be welcomed by all Londoners and will only be opposed by the narrow selfish interests of big business.

Yours for socialism,
DAVE WETZEL, Chairman,
Transport Committee,
Greater London Council,
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1.
March 28.

Bishop's move

From the Bishop of Norwich

Sir, I walked into the City of London today, leaving Liverpool Street station at 12.52pm. Taking the longer route, I passed the Temple where, amidst a mass of daffodils, the great magnolia was just breaking into bloom.

I continued along Victoria Embankment, giving a gracious and thankful nod across the water to Mr Livingstone for providing us all with a noiseless, fumeless, busless day of health and exercise, and I wheeled into the Palace of Westminster at 1.37pm.

I usually allow 35 minutes by Tube, and 40 minutes by bus, door to door; so 45 minutes by foot to show a party of Norfolk schoolchildren round this bastion of democracy is a small price to pay.

Yours, etc,
MAURICE NORVIC:,
House of Lords.
March 28.

VAT on building

From Mr Oliver Barratt

Sir, Lord Rosebery and Mr George Ferguson (March 20) correctly assess the cumulatively calamitous consequences for the nation's building stock of the imposition of VAT on alterations, as is already the case for repairs. Treasury mandarins, however, are impervious to such arguments and will see them as special pleading by the owner of an historic house and by an architect, just as surely as if they had complained about the taxing of their fish and chips.

While the taxing of work on existing buildings is unfortunate, it is the distortion of doing this when both demolition and new building are zero-rated that is grossly unfair and will do far more damage to the environment. If any building work is taxed, then all should be and no one could claim that a demand for the equal imposition of VAT on demolition work and on all new building is special pleading.

There are often good reasons for demolishing a building and erecting a new one, rather than repairing and adapting an existing building, such decisions should be made on the basis of real criteria, not influenced by distorted taxation. It is completely illogical that new buildings should not be similarly taxed and, if the question of employment in the construction industry is raised, the labour-intensive nature of most repair and alteration work might justify a distortion in the reverse direction.

As far as historic buildings are concerned, most of the problems caused by the imposition of VAT could be alleviated by allowing owners of listed buildins to recover the VAT on repairs (not alterations) certified by an architect or quantity surveyor. Also charities, which would include churches and the National Trusts, should be allowed to recover VAT, but there are reasons for dong this which have nothing to do with buildings.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER BARRATT, Secretary,
The Cockburn Association (The Edinburgh Civic Trust),
15 North Bank Street,
Edinburgh.
March 21.

Pint-size increase

From Mr Roy Chapman

Sir, I note that the brewery which owns my favourite local has responded to the extra 2p per pint duty on beer (a) by sounding off with predictable fury about declining sales, threat to the working man's drink, body-blow from the EEC, etc; (b) by putting its beer up 3p.

No doubt the neighbourhood chippie will be similarly confused come May 1.

Yours faithfully,
ROY CHAPMAN,
63 Nevern Square, SW5.
March 19.





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 29: His Excellency Senhor João Hall Themido was received in audience by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Counsellors of State acting on behalf of The Queen, and presented the Letter of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Portugal to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty and Her Royal Highness: Senhor José de Lemos Macedo (Minister Counsellor), Senhor Luis Pazos Alonso (Counsellor – Consular Affairs), Senhor Paulo Guilherme Castilho (Counsellor), Senhor Manuel Corte Real (Counsellor), Captain Rui Francisco Corte Real Negrao (Defence and Naval Attaché), Colonel Manual José da Silva Morais Sarmento (Military and Air Attaché) and Senhor Rui Lopes Aleixo (Second Secretary).

Sr Antony Acland (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and Her Royal Highness was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips attended the Doctor of the Year Luncheon at the Savoy Hotel.

Her Royal Highness was received by the Lord Mayor of Westminster (Councillor Mrs Phoebette Sitwell) and the Chairman, BUPA Medical Foundation (Mr S. Glynn).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Olympic Association, and Captain Mark Phillips, this evening attended a Reception in honour of the British Team at the XIVth Winter Olympic Games, given by the Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher at No 10 Downing Street.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips and Captain Mark Phillips subsequently attended the *Horse and Hound* Centenary Dinner at the Porter Tun Room, the Brewery, Chiswell Street, EC1 and were received by the Editor (Mr Michael Clayton).

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 29: The Princess of Wales this morning visited the Metropolitan Police Training Establishment Peel Centre, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, NW9.

Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN, were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 29: The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Pioneer Corps, was present today at a Ceremony to mark the conferment of the Freedom of the Borough of Northampton on the Corps, at the Guildhall, Northampton. Afterwards His Royal Highness was entertained to Luncheon by the Mayor of Northampton (Councillor R. M. Winter). In the evening His Royal Highness, Patron, Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust, was present at a Reception to mark their 25th Anniversary at Martini Rossi Centre, Lower Haymarket, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 29: The Duchess of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, today received Lieutenant-General Sir Rollo Pain upon relinquishing his appointment as Colonel of the Regiment and General Sir Robert Ford on assuming that appointment.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
SURREY
March 29: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy this evening attended a Reception at Guildhall given by the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers on the occasion of the twenty-first Anniversary of the Grant of Livery to the Company.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were later present at the United Kingdom Premiere of the film *Yentl*, in aid of the National Association for Mental Health (MIND) of which Princess Alexandra is Patron, at the Leicester Square Theatre.

Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

A memorial service for Roland Culver will be held at noon today at St Paul's, Covent Garden.

A memorial meeting in thanksgiving for the life of Edwin Walker will be held at Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, on Friday, April 6 at 11 am.

Mr Ahmed E. H. Jaffer, president, Pakistan Association of World Federalists and vice-president, World Association of World Federalists, has arrived at Château-de-Bossey, Celigny, Geneva, to attend meetings of the Executive committee and council of WAWF.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr W. G. Lamarque and Lady Emma Primrose
The engagement is announced between William, younger son of *the late Mr W. G. Lamarque*, M.B.E., and Mrs Patricia Lamarque, of Elphin House, Coxwold, York, and Emma, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Rosebery, of Dalmeny House, South Queensferry, West Lothian.

Mr R. E. Brown and the Hon E. R. Eden
The engagement is announced between Ronald Etienne, younger son of Mr James Brown and the late Mrs James Brown, and Emily Rose, elder daughter of Lord Eden of Winton and Mrs William Blanshard.

Mr J. I. Adam and Miss L. M. Richardson
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs I. D. Adam, of Woldingham, Surrey, and Lindsey, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. W. Richardson, of Gravesend, Kent.

Mr R. J. Adams and Miss M. Barate
The engagement is announced between *Richard J. Adams, of* Surbiton, Surrey, and Mirella Barate, of Notting Hill Gate, London.

Mr D. A. J. Baldry and Miss J. M. King
The engagement is announced between David, son of the late Mr Ronald James Baldry and of Mrs Baldry, of Southampton, and Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs E. A. King, of Holyport, Berkshire.

Mr H. F. Boon and Miss E. B. M. Harrod
The engagement is announced between Humphrey, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Boon, of 7 Cambridge Square, London, W2 and Elinor, elder daughter of Major-General and Mrs Lionel Harrod, of The Gauge, Marnhull, Dorset.

Mr R. S. Charlton and Miss D. J. Edwards
The engagement is announced between Roy Summerson, younger son of Mr and Mrs G. Charlton, of The Old Chapel, Keysoe, Bedfordshire, and Deryn Jeanne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs A. K. *Edwards, of The Cottage*, Stonely, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

Dr A. K. Cheetham and Miss J. C. Stockwell
The engagement is announced between Anthony Kevin, youngest son of the late Mr and Mrs N. J. Cheetham, of Cheshire, and Janet Clare, elder daughter of Air Commodore I. S. Stockwell, CBE, DFC, AFC, DL (RAF retd) and Mrs Stockwell, of Hadley Wood, Hertfordshire.

Mr J. F. Copping and Miss L. E. Hamerton
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Francis, younger son of Mr A. B. Copping and of Mrs H. C. Copping, of Todmorden, Lancashire, and Lucy Evelyn, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Hamerton, of Louisville, United States.

Mr L. R. Gee-Turner and Miss B. T. H. Van den Bergh
The engagement is announced between Linton, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. J. Gee-Turner, of Crailing House, Crailing, Roxburghshire, and Bettina, only daughter of the late Mr S. J. Van den Bergh and the late Mrs H. H. Van den Bergh-Bendix, of Wassenaar, The Netherlands.

Mr L. J. Wigglesworth and Miss F. V. Horne
The engagement is announced between Lloyd John, younger son of Mr and Mrs David Wigglesworth, of Manor Quarry, Duffield, and Fiona Valerie, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Horne, of Russet Eaves, Duffield, Derbyshire.

Mr A. C. Williams and Miss R. J. Hoffe
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs J. C. Williams, of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Robyn, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. B. Hoffe, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr P. D. Englander and Miss L. A. Kroll
The engagement is announced between Peter David, son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Englander, of London, NW11, and Leanda Abigail, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Kroll, of Stanmore, Middlesex.

Mr J. G. F. Miller and Miss K. E. Spencer
The engagement is announced from Cairo, between Jonathan Gordon Fisk, only son of Mr Colin O. J. Miller and the late Mrs Janice Miller, of Woodlands, Alton, Hampshire, and Karen Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael W. Spencer, of Painter's Nook, Two Dales, Matlock, Derbyshire.

Mr W. N. Mason-Jones and Miss F. A. Minoprio
The engagement is announced between William Nicholas, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. Mason-Jones, of Far Causeway House, Adel, Leeds, and Fiona Annette, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Q. L. Minoprio, of Carden Marsh, Malpas, Cheshire.

Mr R. G. Tattersall and Miss A. I. Wells
The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of the late Mr W. A. Tattersall and of Mrs Tattersall, of Wardington, Banbury, and Anna, only daughter of the late Dr H. E. Wells and of Mrs Wells, of Headington, Oxford.

Mr S. P. Warsop and Miss B. Nesham
The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Dr and Mrs P. A. Warsop, of Gauldry, Fife, and Benedicta, youngest daughter of Major the Rev Robert and Mrs Nesham, of Poulton, Gloucestershire.

Marriage

Mr J. H. Cleleand and Mrs A. C. Field
The marriage took place quietly in London on Thursday, March 29, between Mr John Hillyar Cleland and Mrs Anne Carolynn Field.

Memorial service

Major-General G. B. Wilson
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Major-General Geoffrey Boyd Wilson was held at the Royal Garrison Church, Woolwich, yesterday. *The Ven P. Mallett officiated*, assisted by the Rev B. Wright and the Rev D. Small. General Sir Thomas Morony, Master Gunner, St James's Park, gave an address and Major-General M. J. Tomlinson, Director Royal Artillery, read the lesson. Among those present were:
Mrs Wilson (widow), Major and Mrs Brian Ballinger, Major and Mrs Eric Happe, Miss Sally, Miss Emma and Miss Lucy Wilson, Mrs V B Scott, Herr Veltin, Mr and Mrs P Ballinger, Colonel and Mrs John Mayo, Mr Charles Mayo, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs David Lloyd, Captain Simon Lloyd, Miss Caroline Lloyd, Miss Diana Ellis, Mr and Mrs Rice, Mr C Pendle, Mr Alan Ballinger, Mr and Mrs H D Haigh, Major and Mrs P N Brooks, Miss R Brooks.
General Sir Harry and Lady Tuzo, General Sir John and Lady Gibbon, General Sir Jack Harman, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard and Lady Vincent, Lieutenant-General Sir Edward and Lady Burgess, Lieutenant-General Sir Martin Farndale, Major-General Sir Cyril and Lady Colquhoun, Major-General Sir Peter Gillett, Lady Travers, Lady McLeod, the Ven W F and Mrs Johnston, Major-General B W Davis (representing the Quartermaster General), Major-Generals J E Cordingley, B P Hughes, M Matthews, T A Richardson, C P Campbell (controller, R E Association), and L A D Harrod; Major-General and Mrs B W Davis, Major-General and Mrs J K I Douglas-Withers, Major-General and Mrs M James, Major-General and Mrs L H Plummer, Major-General and Mrs R Staveley, Major-General and Mrs T S C Streatfeild, Major-General A E Walkling, Major-General and Mrs G H Watkins, Major-General and Mrs H M Stinnott, Major-General and Mrs J A Stephenson, Colonel A D Morland (representing Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Europe), Major T M Deane (representing the Director AAC), and standard bearers of branches of the Royal Artillery Association.

Latest wills

Mr Harry **Ellard**, of Solihull, engineer and property owner, owner of the 1,700-acre Broadstone Estate near Chipping Norton and the Georgian mansion of Compton Verney, near Kineton, left estate valued at £4,190,915 net. After personal and other bequests he left the residue to the grand charity of the United Grand Lodge of England.

Mr Kenneth Gillison Mosford **Harding**, of Birkenhead, left £1,548,841 net.

Mr Richard James **Butler**, of Wootton Rivers, Wiltshire £333,991.

Miss Beatrice Diana **Eliot**, of Wetsminster, London ......£848,086.

Science report

Clockwork spawning of the coral reefs

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

At a particular hour of one particular day each day year all the hundreds of species of coral forming the 2,000-kilometre Great Barrier Reef – comprising more than 2,000 individual coral reefs – spawn simultaneously. That incredible biological explosion has just been discovered by a team of zoologists and oceanographers.

A report of their findings in the current BBC periodical *Wildlife* describes how the surface of the sea is filled suddenly with a colourful mass of free-floating gametes, a reproductive soup from which tiny *planula* larvae develop with astonishing speed and disperse among the reefs and cays.

That revelation became possible because of a new submersible research vehicle, with large windows along both sides and elaborate monitoring and recording equipment, devised by the team from the James Cook University.

For centuries, scientists have puzzled over the structure and biology of the variety of corals which form a reef. The new studies show that their sex lives are synchronized with great precision to the moon, the tides, and the temperature of the sea.

But it was not just the corals on the Great Barrier Reef which released their eggs and sperm in one incredible synchronized orgasm; so did others of the species nutured *on a contrived reef in the* laboratory aquarium.

But why should such a massive event occur with such clockwork precision and regularity? Furthermore, why has this phenomenon only just been noticed on one of the most famous reefs which marine biologists have explored for decades?

The search for an answer to the first question will probably now drive coral specialists to their boats to examine reefs across the world. The second lies in having the combination of advanced equipment ready for underwater observations at a time at which reproduction of the coral had been predicted from observations in the aquarium.

The basic coral animal is like a very simple sea anemone. It is called a polyp and may be male or female or both. The hermaphrodite organism develops from a larva that settles down after swimming free for a time.

The distinctive fringe of tentacles crowns the top of a soft cylindrical body, and the base of the coral becomes embedded in a solid cup of calcareous material it has secreted around itself. It is this ability to secrete such a stony home, called coralite, a protective structure in which there are partitions, that separates corals from the sea anemones.

Eggs and sperm are produced in ovaries and testes in the tissues within the body cavity. At spawning time bundles of eggs and sperms are ejected from the orifice surrounded by the tentacles.

But corals also have a nonsexual way of reproduction by simple cell division, and that way hundreds of them linked by tiny delicate strands develop from one organism. Light is essential to reef-building because the coral does not live alone but has a relationship with minute plants that need sunlight to make their own food.



Psychiatrist wins award

A consultant psychiatrist has won the BUPA Medical Foundation's annual award.

Dr David Tait, aged 34, seen in front of a statue of Sir Arthur Sullivan in the Embankment Gardens, London, received a £1,000 cheque from Princess Anne at the foundation's luncheon at the Savoy Hotel yesterday.

He is a consultant psychiatrist at the Murray Royal Hospital in Perth where his father was also a consultant psychiatrist and his wife was secretary to another.

The award was for Dr Tait's pioneering work at an approved school in Scotland.

At the time he was in higher psychiatric training as senior registrar in the Aberdeen Teaching Hospitals, having gained experience previously in child psychiatry and in forensic psychiatry.

During his association with the school he spent two one-and-a-half-hour sessions each week in the school, one with new boys and the second session was spent as a member of the assessment team.

The runner up is Dr Kevin Jeanings who wins £750.

(Photograph: Chris Harris)

Luncheons

"Doctor of the Year"
Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, was the guest of honour and presented the awards at the "Doctor of the Year" luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. The Chairman of the BUPA Medical Foundation, Mr Stanley Glynn, presided. The citations were read by Miss Jan Leeming and the principal speaker was Lord Denning.

HM Government
Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, was host at a luncheon held at Admiralty House yesterday in honour of Senhor Van Dunem, Minister of Energy and Petroleum, Angola.

Ro yal College of Surgeons of England
Professor Geoffrey Slaney, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, yesterday entertained at luncheon at the college Group Captain H. S. L. Dundas, Mr Edward J. Hartnett, Mr P. K. Levene, Mr A. Lindsay Stewart, Mr H. H. G. Eastcott and Mr D. L. Evans.

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Sheriff Rodney FitzGerald, was guest at a luncheon given by Mr Clifford Dann, President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, at 12 Great George Street yesterday.

Receptions

Prime Minister
Princess Anne, President of the British Olympic Association, and Captain Mark Phillips, and Prince Michael of Kent, President of the British Bobsleigh Association, were present at a reception given by the Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher at 10 Downing Street yesterday evening.

Furniture Makers' Company
Princess Alexandra, and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present last night at Guildhall at a reception given by the Master of the Furniture Makers' Company. Mr J. A. Lawrence, the Senior Warden, Mr Morris Leigh, and the Junior Warden, Mr D. B. Ercolani, and their ladies, to mark the twenty-first anniversary of the grant of livery to the company from the Court of Mayor and Aldermen, from which date the Furniture Makers' Company is able to admit freemen by patrimony.

Confederation of British Industry
Sir Campbell Fraser, President of the Confederation of British Industry, was host at a reception held at Centre Point yesterday evening to mark the retirement of Sir Donald MacDougall as chief economic adviser to the CBI. Among those present were:
Sir Lawrence Airey, Sir Frederick Atkinson, the Hon Sir John Baring, Lord Benson, Sir Kenneth Berrill, Sir Stephen Brown, Sir Terence Burns, Sir Adrian Cadbury, Sir Michael Clapham, Sir James Cleminson, Sir Kenneth Couzens, Lord Cornwallis, Lord Keith of Castleacre, Sir Arthur Knight, Sir Peter Middleton, Mr Lionel Murray, Sir Arthur Norman, Sir Richard O'Brien, Sir David Orr, Lord Pennock, Lord Plowden, Lord Richardson, Sir Robert Shone, Viscount Watkinson, and Sir Terence and Lady Beckett.

Dinners

To Mr W. R. J. Pullen
A dinner was given at Stationers' Hall last night to celebrate Mr W. R. J. Pullen's twenty-fifth anniversary as Receiver General of Westminster Abbey. The host was Mr Austen Kopley. Grace was said by the Dean of Westminster and the other speakers were Mr George Dodson-Wells, Mr George Garnham, the Hon Diana Makgill, Major-General Sir Peter Gillett, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Eric Penn, Miss Anne Carter, Sir David Floyd Ewin, and Group *Captain Gordon Pirie. Among those* present were:
Mrs Reginald Pullen, Mrs Austen Kopley, Mrs Edward Carpenter, Mr Stuart Holmes, Mrs George Dodson-Wells, Mrs George Garnham, Lady Gillett, Lady Penn, Lady Floyd Ewin, Mrs Gordon Pirie, Sir Paul and Lady Wright, Commander and Mrs W E Messinger, Mr and Mrs John Tilman, the Archdeacon of Macclesfield, Commander and Mrs Charles Shears, and Miss Audrey Russell.

City of London Solicitors' Company
The Lord Mayor who was accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, was a speaker at the ladies' dinner given by the City of London Solicitors' Company at the Mansion House yesterday. The Master, Mr P. J. Purton, was in the chair and the other speakers were Sir Campbell Fraser and the Senior Warden, Mr D. F. Gray.

Anglo-Jordanian Society
The Anglo-Jordanian Society entertained Dr Muhafzah, Vice-President of Mu'Tah University, Jordan, at dinner at the Cavendish Hotel, yesterday. Major-General F. J. Plaskett, Captain J. Larkin, Mr R. Syme and Mr R. Hartland were among the guests.

Anglo-Israel Association
The annual dinner of the Anglo-*Israel Association was held at the* Savoy Hotel last night. The guest of honour and speaker was the President of Israel, Mr Chaim Herzog. Lord Scarman proposed a vote of thanks and Lady Elliot Harwood, president of the association, presided.

Service dinner

The Royal Pioneer Corps
Officers, warrant officers, and senior non-commissioned officers of The Royal Pioneer Corps held a dinner at Castle Ashby, Northamptonshire, last night to celebrate the grant to The Royal Pioneer Corps of the Freedom of the Borough of Northampton. Brigadier F. J. Lucas, Director of Army Pioneers and Labour, and Mrs Lucas, received the guests. The principal guests were:
The Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire and Mrs Lowther, the Mayor and Mayoress of Northampton, the Chief Executive and Town Clerk and Mrs Parkhouse, the deputy mayor and Mrs James, the Chairman of Daventry District Council and Mr Cox and Brigadier and Mrs K J Davey.

Latest appointments

Mr P. W. Stehrenberger has been appointed finance director and company secretary of News International plc from Sunday in succession to Mr P. R. Ekberg, who will remain on the board in an advisory capacity, particularly with regard to pensions, insurance, and property.

Mr Stehrenberger has been with the company for 11 years and was group financial controller as well as company secretary of the main subsidiaries.

Mr Ekberg has been with the company for 45 years and has been a Director since 1977.

Other appointments include:
Captain G. A. F. Hitchens, ADC, Royal Navy, to be promoted Rear-Admiral on October 16 and to be Chief Staff Officer (Engineering) to Commander-in-Chief Fleet in October.
Captain R. V. Holley, ADC, Royal Navy, to be promoted Rear-Admiral on December 17 and to be Senior Naval Member of the Directing Staff, Royal College of Defence Studies, in December, 1984.

Birthdays today

Sir Robert Armstrong, 57; Mr Warren Beatty, 47; Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson, 54; Miss Joyce Carey, 86; Professor L. W. Forster, 71; Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich, 75; Sir John Gray 66; Mr Rolf Harris, 54; Mr I. C. MacLaurin, 47; Lord Rayner, 58; Sir Peter Scarlett, 79; Lord Tanlaw, 50; General Sir Richard Trant, 56.

Guild of Freemen

The following have been elected officers of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London for the ensuing year:
Master, Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden; Wardens, Mr Deputy B. L. Morgan, Mr Clifford E. Adams, Mr Donald du Parc Braham; Mr Deputy H. W. S. Horlock.

Haberdashers' Aske's School Elstree

Instrumentalists and singers from the Haberdashers' Aske's School, Elstree (Director of Music, Mr Alan Taylor), will give a concert in the Church of St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guildhall at 1pm on Tuesday, April 3, 1984.

Cheltenham Ladies' College

The following entrance scholarships for 1984 have been announced on the results of the recent examinations:
Academic scholarships
Centenary Scholarship and Music Exhibition: Joanna Speed, Maltman's Green School, Gerrards Cross.
Major scholarships: Joanna Dutton, Sarum Hall School, London, NW3; Cristina Hastings, Dean Close Junior School, Cheltenham.
Minor scholarships: Helen Carty, St Mary's School, Lincoln; Sharon Singh, St Bede's School, Eastbourne.
Music scholarships
Major scholarship: Suzannah Manns, Island School, Hongkong.
Minor scholarships: Katie Lees, Clifton High School, Bristol; Katie Saunders, Dean Close Junior School.
Sixth-form scholarships:
Major scholarship: Jacqueline Mistry, Sutton High School, Surrey.
Art scholarship: Andrea Cunningham, Manor House, Little Bookham, Surrey.

Sevenoaks School

The following scholarships and exhibitions have been awarded by Sevenoaks School for September, 1984:

Junior (11+)
Major scholarships: Naomi Hetherington, Sydenham High School; Gareth Wildman, Rose Hill School, Tunbridge Wells.
Minor scholarships: Andrew Bishop, Kemsing Primary School, nr Sevenoaks; Charlotte Richardson, The Granville School, Sevenoaks.
Exhibitions: Richard Brown, Sevenoaks Preparatory School; Jonathan Fisher, Sevenoaks School/Lower Hardres Primary, Canterbury; Andrew Fraser, St George's Primary School, Wrotham.

Senior (13+)
Major scholarships: Jeremy Gould, The New Beacon, Sevenoaks; Andrew Grant, Holmewood House, Tunbridge Wells.
Pipe Makers' Scholarship: Susannah Peterson, Forest Grange, Horsham, Sussex.
Minor scholarships: Jason Brown, Solefield School, Sevenoaks; Paul Chatrath, Charles Darwin School, Biggin Hill; Ashley Hollands, Sevenoaks Preparatory School; Timothy Horton (music), Sevenoaks School/Amherst Primary School, Sevenoaks; Anthony Rooke, Solefield School, Sevenoaks; Stuart Slater, Sevenoaks School/Solefield School, Sevenoaks; Alexis Templeton, Stoke Brunswick, East Grinstead.
Exhibition: John Plant, The New Beacon, Sevenoaks.

Sixth form (16+)
Major music scholarship: Gabrielle Ray, Pimlico School.
Scholarships: Ruth Belbin, Bromley High School; Mark Brown, Antony Leicester, Maxwell Lyth, Haren Patel, Peter Merrick, all Sevenoaks School; Mark Allen, Lycée International, St Germain-en-Laye.
Exhibitions: Peter Griffiths, Edward Mills, Andrew Boshoff, all Sevenoaks School; Emma Martin, Tonbridge Grammar School for Girls; Edward Bossey, The British School of Brussels; Alison Baker, James Allen's Girls' School; Sara Beggs, St Leonards-Mayfield School; Lucie Reeder, Royal Naval School, Haslemere; Rachel Pearce, Sevenoaks School/Ravensbourne School.

OBITUARY

LORD BROOKE OF CUMNOR

Former Conservative Home Secretary

Lord Brooke of Cumnor, PC, CH, who died yesterday aged 80, had a long career in Parliament in the course of which he held some of the most arduous and difficult offices of state. He was Chief Secretary to the Treasury and Paymaster-General from 1961 to 1962, and Home Secretary from 1962 to 1964.

He was a politician of many sterling qualities, able, conscientious and hard-working, but was visibly not at his ease at turbulent times in the House of Commons and this, together with a certain lack of sensitivity, led to much criticism during his time as Home Secretary.

Henry Brooke was born in 1903, and educated at Marlborough, where he was a contemporary of R. A. Butler, later Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, and at Balliol.

Henry Brooke entered the House of Commons at a by-election in 1938 as Conservative Member for West Lewisham, which he held until his Party's debacle in 1945. He was subsequently adopted in place of the sitting Conservative Member as candidate for Hampstead, then regarded as one of the most comfortable Conservative seats in London. He was duly elected in 1950, and represented Hampstead until the General Election in 1966.

He was, from 1946-8, the last Deputy Chairman of the Southern Railway prior to nationalization, and he continued to serve both on the LCC and the Hampstead Borough Council after his return to the Commons.

In 1954, Sir Winston Churchill selected him for appointment as Financial Secretary to the Treasury in succession to Mr John Boyd-Carpenter, who was later to follow him as Chief Secretary in 1962. At this time the office of Financial Secretary was probably the most influential Ministerial appointment outside the Cabinet. Brooke was admirably fitted for the very heavy work load involved, and for the first year served under



his old Marlborough friend, R. A. Butler.

In 1957, he entered the Cabinet when Mr Macmillan appointed him to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the office in which he himself had established his reputation. Brooke, however, inherited from his immediate predecessor, Mr Duncan Sandys, the Bill which became the ccontroversial Rent Act 1956. Though the intention to free privately owned housing from the restrictions which it had long borne was well-intended, the removal of security of tenure from many tenants of small means raised so much bitterness that its repeal by Mr Wilson's Government in 1965 was almost uncontested.

In 1961, in order to relieve the burdens which had visibly overstrained more than one Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Macmillan created the new office of Chief Secretary to the Treasury. He appointed Brooke to the post, which carried responsibility for public expenditure, the Civil Service, the Universities and the Arts. It involved the innovation of a second Treasury Minister with a seat in the Cabinet. To provide him with a salary, Brooke was also appointed to the ancient but almost sinecure office of Paymaster-General.

In July 1962, after "the night of the long knives", Brooke became Home Secretary. He was re-appointed to the office in the Douglas-Home Government of October 1963, and retained it until the fall of the Conservative Government in October 1964. His tenure of this difficult post was not a particularly happy one, and athough his integrity and firmness were generally admired there was a feeling in some quarters that he lacked the sensitiveness and flexibility required in the handling of difficult individual cases. His decision in the case of the application by the Nigerian Government for the return of Chief Enahoro gave rise to a number of angry debates in which his precise and somewhat pedantic method of speech did little to lower the temperature.

While at the Home Office he became the target of a good deal of criticism in liberal and left wing circles, and this no doubt contributed to the disproportionately heavy reduction in 1964 in his majority at Hampstead. At the following election in 1966 he was defeated by a young Eton-educated Labour candidate, Mr Ben Whittaker.

Mr Wilson recommended him for a life peerage, and he became a regular front bench spokesman for the Opposition in the House of Lords. Here he was very much at ease and his great experience and conscientious accuracy of mind earned him great respect.

He was created a Companion of Honour in 1964, having been made a Privy Councillor in 1955.

In private life his quiet manner, friendliness and utter reliability earned him a host of friends, and his loyalty and devotion to Marlborough, to Balliol, to London Local Government and to the Conservative Party will cause him to be long remembered among innumerable people.

His marriage in 1933 to Barbara, now Baroness Brooke of Ystradfellte was both an ideally happy one in private life and a distinguished public partnership. She had preceded him to the House of Lords and was one of his sponsors at his introduction to that House. They had two sons and two daughters.

MR JOSEPH MACLEOD

Joseph Macleod, who has died at the age of 80 in Florence which had been his home these past 25 years, was best known as a news reader and BBC radio commentator during the War years. But he was also a distinguished poet, dramatist, theatre and film director. Those who recall the all-important news bulletins of the years 1939-45 will remember his distinctive voice.

Born in London, on April 24, 1903, of Scottish parents Joseph Todd Gordon Macleod was educated at Rugby and Balliol College, Oxford, where he read law. He went on the Inner Temple and was called to the Bar in 1928.

His first work published in 1927 was a quasi-Marxist "Essay on Literature" called *Beauty and the Beast*, which also owed debts to Ezra Pound, the chief influence on Macleod's earliest poetry.

Publication of poetry by Faber and Faber meant in those days the approval of T. S. Eliot, which was with every good reason taken as a sign of high promise. Thus, Macleod's strikingly original *The Ecliptic* (1930) was viewed with great interest and even awe. This and Auden's *Poems* (also 1930) were greeted in the United States as a "dawn in Britain". But Macleod later said: "I didn't belong to that lot. I owe much to Ezra Pound."

The style of this technically remarkable if perhaps not enduring poem, indeed owed something to that of Pound's *Cantos*, then in progress; its theme the disintegration of culture and of human consciousness, was that of Eliot's *Waste Land*.

Nothing apart from the slim volume *Foray of Centaurs* (1931) more was heard from Macleod the poet until the privately printed collection *The Cove* appeared in 1940, soon followed by *The Men of the Rocks*, in 1942. But as these were signed "Adam Drinan" very few connected them with the news reader whose name was now familiar to the whole of Great Britain.

In 1933 he became Director and Lessee of the Festival Theatre in Cambridge, and wrote and himself produced four plays for this repertory company. The most memorable of these was the unpublished *A Woman Turned to Stone* (1934).

While living in Cambridge Macleod published a satirical novel *Overture to Cambridge* (1934).

He gave up his lease on the theatre in 1936, and became Secretary to the Huntingdonshire Divisional Labour Party (1937-8), and was for that period the prospective parliamentary candidate. In 1938 he joined the BBC, which he left in 1945.

About these years he wrote an autobiography, *A Job at the BBC* (1947). After the War Macleod was Managing Director of the Scottish National Film Studios (1946-47).

Macleod chose the name Adam Drinan to publish three books of verse about the Hebrides because some of his ancestors came from Drinan in Skye. In the ancient traditions of the Hebrides, and the threatened way of life there, he found a new voice. The best of the Hebrides poems are in the third "Drinan volume" *Women of the Happy Island* (1944). These, the product of what has been called an "exquisite ear", imitate in English the lilt of the Gaelic which his father had spoken.

He also wrote a play as Drinan, *The Ghosts of the Strath* (1943) and a dramatic poem under both his pseudonym and his name, *Script from Norway* (1953).

By 1951 he felt that he had left Drinan behind: the poems of *The Pasaage of the Torch* were issued under the name of Macleod, as were those of his final collection, *An Old Olive Tree* (1971).

Macleod wrote several influential books on theatre history, including *The New Soviet Theatre* (1943), and a short history of the British theatre in Italian called *Piccola Storia del Teatro Britannico* (1958). He also wrote a biography: *The Sisters d'Aranyi* (1969).

Though Mcleod's name was once a household word when he read the news to anxious millions, he is likey to be remembered more for a few stately and beautifully phrased poems and for his very original contribution to verse drama which has been a weak form in our century. His was a modest, but unique, achievement.

Lady Wilkinson, wife of Sir Peter Wilkinson, KCMG, DSO, OBE, former Ambassador to Vienna, died on March 25. She was the former Mary Theresa Villiers, whom he married in 1945.

THE ARTS

Irving Wardle reviews the RSC's Stratford opening of *Henry V*

The history man

When Stratford last tackled this play, in Terry Hands' 1975 version, the main task was to dispel the shadow of *The Wars of the Roses* and reestablish Henry as a hero in his own right.

The whole emphasis of that production was on Alan Howard's growth from a reformed wastrel to a conquering monarch, with Agincourt counting less as a victory over a foreign enemy than a victory over himself.

In Adrian Noble's production, which opens the new Stratford season, the centre is by no means so clearly defined. If it lies anywhere, it is in the figure of Ian McDiarmid's Chorus: a wry commentator in timeless costume who remains on stage throughout, reflecting every queasy shift of emotion with which modern audiences view this discordant work.

Mr McDiarmid opens with a standard rhetorical flourish, but when he reaches the last line, "Kindly to judge our play", his arms go out in a gesture of invitation asking us to share responsibility for the show.

From that moment he becomes an intimate confidant, jogging our fantasy, snarling at the stage's limitations and – crucially – turning deadly serious when he mentions the sacred name of Agincourt and its even bloodier aftermath in the succeeding reign.

It is a bewitchingly varied and witty performance, but its main importance is structural. It invites the spectator not only to share the task of imagination, but also to acknowledge complicity in the play's nationalistic prejudices. Given our recent history, there is a strong case for saying that *Henry V* is still about ourselves.

The general style of the production is in key with Mr Noble's other Stratford work: copious use of atmospheric music (by Howard Blake, with much reliance on harp arpeggios and unaccompanied folk song), and a denuded stage. The early scenes are played down-stage in front of a traverse curtain, which is whisked off to disclose the black cavern of the impending French battlefield.

Bob Crowley's scheme does not always work out in detail. Alice and the French Princess have to make their first entrance engulfed in the smoke of Harfleur, and the use of a tall rectangular door – symbolizing the gate of war – leads the army straight off the battlefield.

But there are more occasions when it operates brilliantly, such as the sight of the wretched English crouched under sacking in the pouring rain; or on the night before Agincourt, when the chorus prowls over the squalid down-stage area shining a tourch overy Henry's followers, while in the farthest depths of the stage the French are seen lolling in golden luxury, languidly passing the night in games of chess before their supposedly certain victory.

The Stratford programme contains two parallel essays on "Hero-King" and "Scourge of God", both of which relate to Kenneth Branagh's performance. At his first appearance, you can well imagine Mr Branagh as Hal: a quiet, cold figure watching and listening while giving nothing away, and generally avoiding the centre of the stage. He first shows his hand in the tennis-ball scene, beginning with a mild answer to the French insult, and then exploding into paroxysms of psychotic rage.

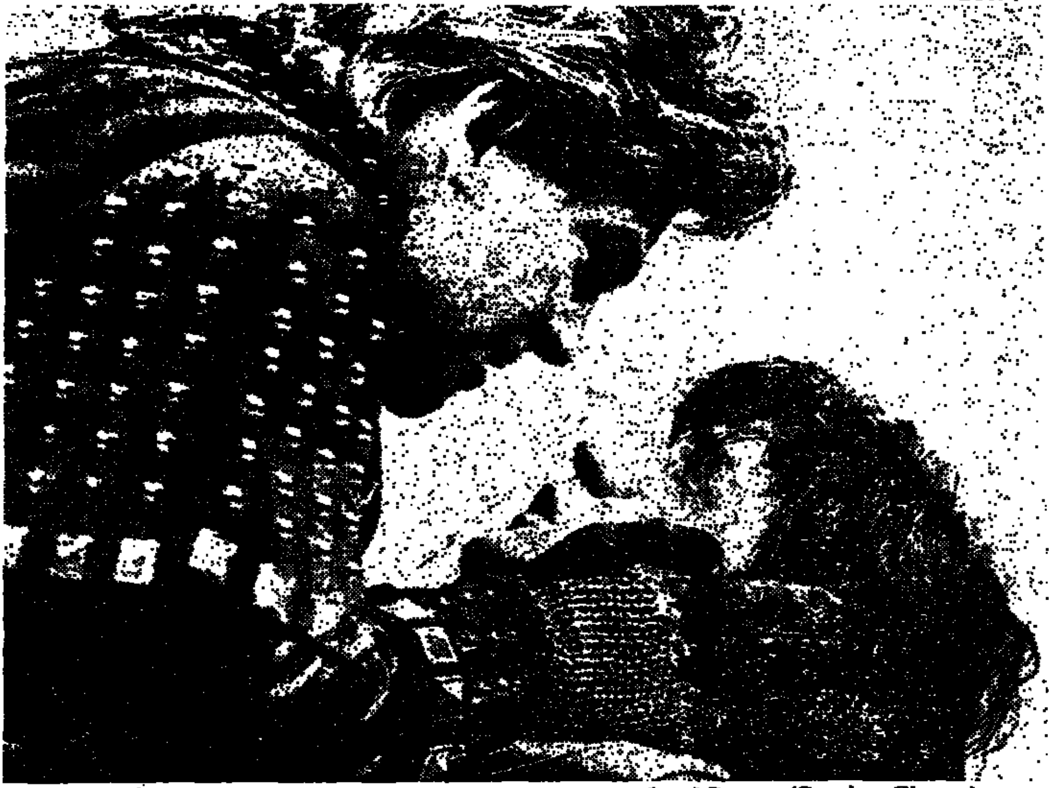
The effect is characteristic of this actor, and it is well matched to Henry's habit of playing the sympathetic private man and then arising into violent public action. In Mr Branagh's case, there is no clear-cut division between the two.

Not content with sentencing the English conspirators to death, he hurls himself on Stephen Simms' Scroop for an act of personal betrayal. And after the massacre of the boys, he similarly assaults the French herald. The performance throughout presents a poised, confident mask through which panic and savagery periodically break out.

This can take the form of physical courage, as in a vertiginous fall from a ladder, into the arms of his followers. More often he comes over as a haunted man, pursued simultaneously by personal and dynastic history. His prayer before Agincourt is a gabbled, terrified act of bribery, fully in the spirit of his guilty father.

Likewise, memories of Eastcheap come home to roost at his last encounter with Bardolph (John Rogan) who kneels fixing the king with a mute, terrifying stare as he is slowly garrotted by Brian Blessed's hulking Exeter. This is by far the most painful moment of the evening, and the passage where Mr Branagh comes closest to public collapse.

I have said enough to indicate the intelligence of this reading. What it lacks is magnitude. Vocally, Mr Branagh is underpowered for the part, and repeatedly his climaxes are simply high-pitched instead of thrilling. He has not mastered the craft of individual word emphasis, and his couplets do not ring.



Donald Cooper

Public violence: Kenneth Branaugh's Henry turns on Lord Scroop (Stephen Simms)

Paying penance the American way

"You do realize", said the lady from San Francisco, "That what you're seeing in this festival is a tiny fragment of the American theatre?" What we were seeing, as usual at Louisville, was a programme of nine plays chosen from the annual intake of some 2,000 scripts. The selection is then shown over three days to an audience of international guests and Kentucky regulars, whose trust in the Actors' Theatre is such that they even subscribe to its untried material.

You can always be sure of finding good design and good performances at Louisville; finding good new plays is the uncertain factor. It can strain the patience to see the lights going up on yet another homely mid-West interior, in which the family shares its problems over a veneer table with frequent recourse to the battered refrigerator. You do not see that kind of backwoods naturalism in New York. Domestic politics remain the predominant issue of this year's programme, but its quality is much improved. There has also been a conscious effort by the management to coax their home-loving writers out of the nest.

Two of the main house productions were large-scale commissioned pieces on public themes: Emily Mann's *Execution of Justice* and Ken Jenkins's *007 Crossfire* – dealing respectively with the 1978 San Francisco City Hall murders, and last year's shooting down of the Korean airliner.

The methods and intentions of these pieces were in precise opposition. Miss Mann, viewing the deaths of the liberal mayor and a homosexual supervisor as a clear instance of redneck bigotry, presents the story through a strict reconstruction of the case against their assassin, a former employee of the Police Department, Daniel White.

Mr Jenkins, having no clear ideas about the ill-fated flight except that the episode was too important to ignore, devises a free-for-all in which every party has its say while the question of staging political events is hotly debated by a group of American actors.

Jon Jory's production presents the doomed flight itself in the Kabuki manner, with masked passengers and a model aircraft brought down with a decapitating sword blow. Visually beautiful, such effects also create a framework for debate; but all you glean from Mr Jenkins is that the more important the event, the more impossible it is to dramatize.

On the domestic front, action ranges from a Bronx bar, a Texan mansion, and the slaughtering room of a poultry shop, besides the obligatory farmhouse living room. Of the studio plays, my favourite is P. J. Barry's *The Octette Bridge Club*, which covers a decade in the lives of eight sisters by means of their Friday-night bridge parties. First seen posing for a local newspaper and introducing themselves with cascades of beautifully orchestrated giggles, they wind up facing death, disablement, and madness.

Underlying this play – like other Louisville products – is a standard American device, in this case the party that uncovers painful truths from the past. And, again in company with other pieces, it leaves the pattern implicit. The sisters may be Roman Catholics who have stoically closed their minds to sexual frustration and betrayal. But instead of the obligatory scene where all of this comes out, you are left to deduce it from their style of gossip, regression to childhood games, and obedience to the censorious eldest sister (Sylvia Gassell), who still wields parental authority. Set around two card tables with a dummy player always on the move, Robert Spera's production flows with comic invention.

The same themes crop up, well fleshed-out, in Horton Foote's *Courtship*, a delicate 1914 study of two gently reared Texas girls immured in the home while the sounds and rumours of fecundity and shotgun marriages drift in from the world outside. They recur in Lee Blessing's *Independence*, an all-girls family reunion where madness moves into the centre of the home in the person of a deranged mother (the formidable Miss Gassell again).

Partly as a result of seeing the plays in rapid succession, you get the impression of a group mind at work; and the hints of expiation contained in these quiet domestic plays come into savage prominence elsewhere in the festival. On the studio stage they take the form of an "apache dance", as John Patrick Shanley accurately subtitles *Danny And The Deep Blue Sea*, a bar-room encounter between two self-condemned social outcasts, who begin with tremendous exchanges of abuse and physical violence before coming together for the night.

Irving Wardle

Cinema

Too much of a good thing

Yentl (PG)
Leicester Square Theatre

El Sur (The South) (U)
Academy Two

By Design (18)
Gate Bloomsbury

Reflections (15)
Chelsea Cinema

Isaac Bashevis Singer's *Yentl, The Yeshiva Boy* is a small story, and Barbra Streisand's Yentl is a big film; and in that distinction lie the problems. The perfect scale for Singer's bald, elliptical tale would have been the modest productions of the old-time Yiddish cinema, made by directors like Joseph Green and Edgar G. Ulmer.

But the economics of Hollywood and the politics of stardom can no longer accommodate the small film. The anecdote has to be encased in two hours of spectacle and song and the character must be accommodated to the status and personality of the star.

This is not to doubt Barbra Streisand's commitment to the project (she has, it seems, wanted to film the story for 15 years, and dedicates it to her father) or her undoubted achievement in her first film as director. Filming on location in Czechoslovakia, with Roy Walker as production designer and Judy Moorcroft as costume designer, she has lovingly recreated the look of Russian-Polish Jewry at the turn of the century.

Yentl, the daughter of a rabbi, yearns for learning but in her society and time a woman is prohibited from studying the sacred lore. When her father dies, she disguises herself as a man, changes her name to Anshel, and enrols in a yeshiva in Lublin. She excels in scholarship; but "once you say 'A', you must say 'B'", and her transvestism involves her in some strange and near-tragic adventures, as she falls in love with a fellow-student and marries the girl whose parents have rejected him.

To make a film out of it, Ms Streisand and her fellow writer Jack Rosenthal, have been obliged to inflate Singer's hints and ellipses into rather dogged descriptive action: a heavy comedy scene where Anshel and the man she secretly loves are obliged to share a bed; a more teasingly erotic one when the other students try to force Anshel to bathe with them. Instead of Singer's wonderfully enigmatic treatment of the wedding night ("Hadass in her innocence was unaware that things were not quite as they should have been") the film develops a lengthy expository sequence.

The getting of wisdom: Barbra Streisand as Yentl

As the script progresses the filmmakers abandon Singer more and more to develop their own story.

The inflation of the story does not, in fact, much broaden or deepen Yentl's own character. This gives Ms Streisand, as director-star, her major problem, since she is on the screen and in close-up for a very large part of the time. She looks charming and amusing in male clothing; but the range demanded by Yentl-Anshel is small, and the actress is eventually reduced to monotonous repetition of the same repertory of appealing looks and crooked or quivering upper lip.

It would be impossible to have a Streisand film in which she did not sing. Here music – an impressive score by Michel Legrand with lyrics by Alan and Marilyn Bergman – is used as a continuing internal monologue. The notion is in principle excellent and the performance is fine, yet even this seems an excessive ornament on a small story already more than fully explored by the images and dialogue.

Though Singer's own ending has a nice sense of enigma, the finale of the film is an intelligent and imaginative speculation. It provides a well-calculated dramatic pay-off to a first feature whose nerve and verve, whatever its other shortcomings, are undeniable.

El Sur is Victor Erice's first film since *The Spirit of the Beehive* 10 years ago. It has the same elusive quality of that film, dealing less in direct relationships than in lapses in communication and the distances that separate people. The elusiveness is heightened here, since the film appears to be only the first part of a cycle: it ends in the air, with every promise of a sequel to follow.

The leading character is again a young girl, whom we watch growing to adolescence (she is successively and beautifully played by Sonsoles Aranguren and Iciar Bollan). Her father is a doctor whom she idolizes in her childhood, not least because of the mystery his origins in "The South" give him.

Her fascination with this magical South is only increased by a visit by her grandmother and her father's old nanny, a delectable, loving old peasant chatterbox. In time, as she herself matures, she sees her father deteriorate, succumbing to drink and disappointment. As the film ends she is making her own way to the South, intent on solving some of the mysteries of her father's life and death.

Erice confirms his mastery of mood, ambivalence, and the art of evoking the mysteries rather than the sharp lines of character. His portrait of the young girl is as fascinating as the *Beehive* children. In his film, though, even while submitting to his storytelling spells, there is an inescapable inclination to wonder what, if anything, it is about.

Claude Jutra's **By Design**, from Canada, at least makes its intentions very clear – once past the first reels, which are rather self-conscious about their "sophistication" in establishing the ambiance of a modest design house. The business is run by two attractive women, played by Patty Duke Astin and Sara Botsford, who prove extremely deft and witty players once they, too, get over the bad patch at the beginning.

They live together in a homosexual relationship which is perfectly contented, except for their keen desire for a child. The regular adoption agency is unhelpful in the matter. The only solution seems to be to resort to regular biological processes, and the tragi-comedy follows the story of their search for a suitable agent for the impregnation.

By a series of accidents, both manage to become pregnant, though the screenplay (by Jutra, with Joe Weisenfeld and David Eames) manages to give the ending an unexpected twist. It is a simple, kindly film, which manages to combine robust and sexy comedy with a generous and intelligent approach to the basic human problems it assaults.

It is 12 years since the British director Kevin Billington made his last film, *The Light at the Edge of the World*, and 16 since he made his well-received first feature film, *Interlude*. Unhappily, **Reflections**, from the Irish novelist John Banville's story *The Newton Letter*, has not provided him with a very suitable subject for his return to features.

It is an anecdote about a rather priggish historian who rents a lodge on a crumbling Irish estate, and becomes puzzlingly involved with the crumbling family that inhabits it. He leaves with the melancholy realization that he has not learnt a thing about them, and since the audience shares his bewilderment the whole enterprise is rather frustrating.

It is a film of excessive pretension to sensibility and atmosphere, which means that there is a great deal of walking around, lingering looks of indecipherable meaning, and endless pauses between lines, which are not so great that they merit time for consideration.

David Robinson

Television

Home and away

The dialogue stumbled rather, but **Missing from Home**, BBC 1's six-part thriller series which began last night, was sufficiently intriguing to merit watching next time around.

As played by Judy Loe, Allison Reynolds – whose husband went to the office as usual but didn't return – seemed more inconvenienced than distraught. She was particularly testy with the Special Branch and the police, which didn't seem to be likely in the circumstances, nor did she look the kind of woman who would be on such a steep learning curve at such a moment.

She appeared to know little about her husband's business, or about the family's financial affairs. He, it appeared, had access to classified information, was something of a gambler, and was apparently not all that popular. Certainly the man who shared his office seemed indifferent to him, and a neighbour shied away when questioned.

No doubt we shall learn more about him shortly, although some action will be needed to keep it going. We shall also see a lot more of Miss Loe in this story by Roger Marshall, and that faintly formidable mien may become more compatible with the situation as her troubles increase.

BBC 2's **Forty Minutes**, produced by John Percival, was a heartening programme. It is good to know that the longhorn, the Gloucester Old Spot pig, and the Shetland and Portland sheep are alive and fairly well and with a chance of returning to fashion.

They owe it to the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, a band of people who restore one's faith in the enduring eccentricity of the British which could imply, in this case, a certain longsightedness.

Animal Antiques told how these far-from-everyday countryfolk had doggedly continued to breed sheep and cattle which the more commercially minded had decided were *outré*. It could turn out that they have been canny.

The longhorn is fetching prices which suggest it is farthest along the road to rehabilitation. And the genes of these rare animals are now commending themselves to those who are apprehensive about the shape of things to come.

Dennis Hackett

Opera

Docteur Miracle/ Margot la Rouge
Bloomsbury

We have a rather gruesome way of celebrating composers' anniversaries – by digging skeletons out of their cupboards. I doubt, however, that anything more embarrassing is going to come rattling from the Delius closet this year than his one-act opera *Margot la Rouge*.

Park Lane Opera staged the work on Wednesday night for the first time in this country, following the broadcast revival of two years ago, but now with Delius's own rediscovered orchestration.

Written in 1901 to 1902 for a competition run by the publisher Sonzogno, the piece is a crude story of corruption, jealousy, prostitution and double murder set in a low dive in Montmartre. It does not sound quite Delius's thing, but in fact it works extraordinarily well: whether because it is melodramatic despite being Delian, or Delian despite being melodramatic, I am not sure.

The essence of longing distilled there is associated in the opera with Margot's innocent past as she remembers it, and as it is remembered by Thibault, who encounters her by chance in her present state as a whore and persuades her that they can regain the happiness of former times.

But of course it cannot be. The villains of Margot's more immediate past stop the pair before they can leave: Thibault is killed by an assassin, L'Artiste, and he in turn is stabbed by Margot.

Robert Carsen's production is spot-on, providing a vehicle for characterful performances by Anne Mason as Margot, Maria Moll as her well-chested rival Lili Bèguin, Kim Begley as Thibault and Rodney Macann as L'Artiste.

Mr Carsen and the conductor Clive Timms also find amusing things to do before the interval with Lecocq's *Docteur Miracle*, another competition entry and, not altogether deservedly, a more successful one.

Paul Griffiths

FT – ACTUARIES INDICES

INDUSTRIAL GROUP	520.91 (517.62)
500 SHARE INDEX	567.93 (564.72)
*EARNINGS YIELD	9.62% (9.63%)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.22% (4.23%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.79 (12.78)
ALL SHARE INDEX	524.77 (521.14)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.38% (4.38%)

* estimated

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Pressure off the banks

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 26. Dealings End April 6. § Contango Day, April 9. Settlement Day, April 16

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

MONEY MARKETS

Clearing Banks Base Rate 8½%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 8¾ Low 8½

Week Fixed: 8⅝

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8$\frac{13}{32}$	2 months	8$\frac{7}{16}$
3 months	8$\frac{13}{32}$	3 months	8⅜

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	8$\frac{17}{32}$-8½	1 month	9$\frac{5}{32}$
2 months	8$\frac{15}{32}$-8$\frac{7}{16}$	2 months	9$\frac{3}{32}$
3 months	8$\frac{13}{32}$-8⅜	3 months	9$\frac{1}{32}$
6 months	8$\frac{15}{32}$-8$\frac{7}{16}$	6 months	9$\frac{3}{32}$

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9¼-9	7 months	9¼-9
2 months	9¼-9	8 months	9¼-9
3 months	9¼-9	9 months	9$\frac{7}{16}$-9$\frac{5}{16}$
4 months	9¼-9	10 months	9$\frac{7}{16}$-9$\frac{5}{16}$
5 months	9¼-9	11 months	9$\frac{7}{16}$-9$\frac{5}{16}$
6 months	9¼-9	12 months	9$\frac{7}{16}$-9$\frac{5}{16}$

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	8$\frac{27}{32}$-8$\frac{23}{32}$	6 months	8$\frac{31}{32}$-8$\frac{27}{32}$
3 months	8⅞-8$\frac{13}{16}$	12 months	9⅛-8$\frac{15}{16}$

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	8⅞	3 months	9
7 days	8⅞	6 months	9
1 month	8$\frac{13}{16}$	1 year	9¼

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 8⅞ Close 9¼-8¾

1 week	8$\frac{11}{16}$-8$\frac{11}{16}$	6 months	9¼-9⅛
1 month	8⅞-8¾	9 months	9¼-9⅛
3 months	9-8⅞	12 months	9⅜-9$\frac{5}{16}$

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 9 6 months 9¼

Finance House Base Rate 9½%

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

	Market rates (day's range) March 29	Market rates (close) March 29	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4455-1.4565	$1.4470-1.4480	0.18-0.23c disc	0.61-0.66c disc
Montreal	$1.8475-1.8600	$1.8510-1.8520	0.17-0.27c disc	0.65-0.75c disc
Amsterdam	4.21-4.24fl	4.23-4.24fl	1¼-⅞c prem	3¼-2⅞c prem
Brussels	76.30-76.90f	76.55-76.65f	18-28c disc	55-65c disc
Copenhagen	13.70-13.79k	13.77½-13.78½k	45 prem-60ore disc	140-255ore disc
Dublin	1.2200-1.2280p	1.2245-1.2255p	35-45p disc	115-130p disc
Frankfurt	3.73-3.76m	3.75-3.76m	1¼-⅞pf prem	3¼-2¾pf prem
Lisbon	189.50-192.00e	190.00-190.50e	170-395c disc	915-1185c disc
Madrid	214.00-215.00p	214.30-214.50p	110-130c disc	395-435c disc
Milan	2330-2350lr	2339½-2341½lr	15-17lr disc	48½-48½lr disc
Oslo	10.80-10.86k	10.82-10.83k	405-500ore disc	1200-1305ore disc
Paris	11.49½-11.56½f	11.55½-11.56½f	3½-4½c disc	15-17c disc
Stockholm	11.13½-11.19½k	11.14-11.15k	195-290ore disc	495-600ore disc
Tokyo	323½-326y	324¼-325¼y	0.70-0.55y prem	220-205y prem
Vienna	26.20-26.40sch	26.28-26.33sch	7-4gro prem	18-13gro prem
Zurich	3.09½-3.12½f	3.10¼-3.11¼f	1½-1c prem	4¼-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 0.1 at 80.4.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

* Ireland	1.1825-1.1845
+ Canada	1.2787-1.2790
Netherlands	2.9175-2.9185
Belgium	52.91-52.96
Denmark	9.4975-9.5075
West Germany	2.5865-2.5875
Portugal	131.00-132.00
Spain	148.20-148.30
Italy	1615-1619
Norway	7.4775-7.4875
France	7.9600-7.9700
Sweden	7.7025-7.7125
Japan	223.65-223.80
Austria	18.17-18.00
Switzerland	2.1440-2.1455

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.7819-0.7822

OTHER MARKETS

Australia	1.5400-1.5550
Bahrain	0.5465-0.5495
Finland	8.03-8.07
Greece	147.90-149.90
Hongkong	11.3525-11.3825
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4240-0.4270
Malaysia	3.3180-3.3480
Mexico	240-265
New Zealand	2.1705-2.1905
Saudi Arabia	5.1080-5.1380
Singapore	3.0190-3.0490
South Africa	1.7825-1.7935

EURO-$ DEPOSITS

(%) calls, 9⅞-10⅛; seven days, 10-10¼; one month, 10⅛-10½; three months, 10$\frac{7}{16}$-10$\frac{11}{16}$; six months, 10⅞-11.

GOLD

Gold fixed: am, $390.35 (an ounce); pm, $390.25 close, $389.50-390.00 (£269-269.50).
Krugerrand* (per coin): $401.50-403.00 (£277.25-278.25).
Sovereigns* (new): $92-93 (£63.50-64.25).
* Excludes VAT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

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THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Montagu and Greenwell prepare for the big bang

The engagement between Samuel Montagu, the Midland's in house merchant bank, and W Greenwell, the most influential gilt-edged sockbroker, was formally announced yesterday. Samuel Montagu has taken the prescibed 29.9 per cent of Greenwell and will move to 50 per cent when Stock Exchange rules permit. Meanwhile, the partners, best symbolized by Mr Staffan Gadd who has brought peace, goodwill and profit to Montagu, and Mr Gordon Pepper, the seer of Greenwell and gilts, believe they have a marriage of true minds.

Intercourse will be limited during the first phase, which will end with the Stock Exchange's big bang: the coming of negotiated brokers' commissions in the second half of next year. Thereafter, the two see themselves as effectively one essentially British Market maker in fixed-interest stocks and a block trader in equities. They are thus anticipating the Americanization of trading methods in London, and beyond that, the coming as corporate members of the London Stock Exchange of leading American and Japanese investment houses. Greenwell lacks the "trading mentality", which Montagu will bring (together with capital and an extensive overseas network) it will contribute the research capability and the distribution system.

For the clearing Banks this is mainly a matter of the interpretation of American law which sets out in largely untested statutes investment areas in which they, and stockbrokers, may operate. A survey has been commissioned. Bankers, it is fair to say, are coming round the the view that trading large blocks of shares is where the real money is to be made.

Sir Timothy Bevan, chairman of Barclays, said on Wednesday that if his bank had put all the money in gilts last year, profits would have been just £169m less, for minimal risk and regular income, than Barclays made from traditional banking. Add an international dealing network and making money from mere banking would become a secondary business! Barclays, De Zoete & Bevan and Wedd Durlacher Mordaunt is clearly set to become a substantial force.

April 9 is an important day: international dealerships start to trade in overseas securities for negotiated, rather *than traditional fixed commissions. On* that day also, the cost of buying and gilts will drop by between 10 and 20 per cent. That alone could wipe between £10m and £15m from the income of the larger gilt broking firms. Greenwell, among others, are not letting the grass die under heir feet.

Making hay while ASC prevaricates

The worst fears expressed here yesterday about the stand-off position toward deferred taxation taken by the upper echelon of accountants were duly confirmed after the stock market had made hay in bank shares. National Westminster leaped 17p., Barclays 15p., Lloyds 13p., and Midland a more modest 8p. If the auditors had decided that bank balance sheets and profit and loss accounts would avoid the new, harsh realities of deferred taxation on the banks' leasing business, then it made sense to push up the shares if only to take a quick profit later in the day.

Despite tremendous professional and even public interest in the subject, focused on the clearing banks because of their nprovided deferred taxation liabilities of up to £1.5 billion, and a crying need for a common approach, alll the Accounting Standards Committee could muster was a thinly worded press release which, in effect, allows companies and their auditors to do whatever they want as long as the accounts still show a "true and fair view". The standard setters have once again hidden behind their traditional stance that *they do not interpret accounting standards* nor are they prepared to legislate to accommodate the changes. The only crumb of encouragement is that the situation is under review.

Until the review is completed and materializes as an accounting standard, which could be months away, the ASC has merely reminded companies that SSAP 15, the standard on deferred taxation, and SSAP 6, the standard on extraordinary items remain in force.

Had it stopped there, the scope for manipulation would have been reduced. Most companies would then have been hard pressed to do anything but write back, as extraordinary item debits, deferred taxation liabilities which they had not provided for. The ASC's press release, however, adds: "There may be instances where companies feel that applying SSAP 15 and SSAP 6 does not enable their accounts to give a true and fair view".

Not only does all this open the door for companies to do as they will, it leaves boards of directors in the curious position of preparing their accounts in accordance not with accounting standards but with ASC press releases. As there is already a disparity of view among the big eight accountancy firms on how the problem should be resolved, there is little hope of consistency. The ASC was set up in an attempt to bring some order to the chaotic variety of accounting practices used by companies; it now seems to be encouraging the return to the bad old ways.

US deficit a record –and still growing

Like the Empire State building, the US trade deficit has to be admired for its size. At $10.1 billions, the February figure, the worst ever so far, compares with a February 1983 out-turn of $3.6 billion. Over the last 12 months the deficit totalled $80 billion; if you annualize the last quarter's figure, you come up with around $105 billion. The deterioration looks to be accelerating, and Mr Martin Feldstein's forecast yesterday that the trade dificit could exceed $100 billion in 1985 might come true sooner than he thinks.

Mr Feldstein head of the US Council of Economic Advisors, added the caveat that a falling dollar would improve the trade figures.

Traders in US bonds were however more concerned with the current debt auction. The seven-year note auction went well selling at average yields of 12.41 per cent, and dealers, who reportedly bought the lion's share, discerned some retail interest.

US bond holders are probably weary of *deficit talk, and their attention is focused* more on how the deficit will be financed. A merchandise trade deficit of a notional $100 billion in 1984 would come out at perhaps $80 billion on current account, net of invisibles. This estimate compares with 1982 and 1983 current deficits of $11 billion and $40 billion respectively. With flight capital from the Third World increasingly blocked by IMF-imposed currency restrictions, the burden of financing the US deficit in election year is set to fall increasingly on the Japanese and the West Germans, now running cumulative and annualized payments surpluses of some $30 billion.

How these two tighten the political economic screw via the bond markets by insisting on improved lending terms will become clearer later in the run-up to the US November elections. But as the Bank of England's Quarterly Bulletin reveals, the Americans cannot count of Opec surpluses to help them out this time around. True, the Opec countries' current account position improved during the second *half of 1983 to a $6 billion* surplus (1983:deficit $9 billion) but the switch out of the dollar by Opec countries continued. *In the fourth quarter of 1983, Opec* countries sold $1.8 billion of US bonds, with the bulk of their invested surpluses going into the IMF. This move certainly helped the developing countries whose IMF borrowing now equals their bank borrowings, but the US authorities must view the switch with chagrin.

Hongkong shares slump on news of Jardine move

By William Kay and Philip Robinson

The Hongkong stock market *suffered its biggest one-day fall* for six months yesterday, as the Crown colony's financial community tried to digest the implications that the oldest Hong (trading house) of them all, Jardine Matheson, was moving its legal domicile to Bermuda.

The Hang Seng Index plunged by 72.95 at one stage, before recovering to close 61.76 down at 1,057.09. Dealers said the recovery would have been greater but for late selling from London. Even so, few observers expect the index to stay over 1,000 for long in the present uncertain climate.

Jardine Matheson's shares fell HK$1.30 (11½p) to HK$11.30 on the day, after being as low as HK$10.90. Some Hongkong investors now regard the shares as a convenient way the hedge the growing risks associated with the island as the time approaches for the People's Republic of China to reclaim it and the nearby New Territories.

Talks between the Chinese and British governments are due to resume on April 11. The Chinese have said that if the talks fail they will announce unilateral plans for the area in September. The British lease on the New Territories runs out in 1997.

Mr Simon Keswick, chairman of Jardine, clearly felt that the risks were reaching an unacceptable level. He told reporters in Hongkong: "When we are competing in the international market place for major long-term contracts it is undoubtedly a disadvantage to have to deal with questions regarding the long-term future of Hongkong."

He added that Bermuda had been chosen as a destination because of its proximity to New York; it had a stable government and was a well-known financial centre. Its legal system is, like Hongkong's, based on the English pattern and there is appeal from Bermuda to the Privy Council in London.

There are suggestions that Jardine had talks with several potential havens to see which could offer the best deal, particularly with regard to the number of Jardine executives who would be allowed to emigrate there.

London investment analysts were, however, playing down the significance of the decision. They pointed out that Jardine was no longer the force it had been on Hongkong. Mr Keswick had not become as involved in the community as some of his predecessors.

Greater fears were being expressed over Hutchinson Whampoa's vastly increased dividend this week, which was being seen as a means of exporting some of its assets. But from the point of view of the Hongkong balance of payments, all outflows have to be matched by inflows. The local currency is pegged to the United States dollar, so that any strain is borne by interest rates.

Rumours lift CU shares

The shares of Commercial Union Assurance rose by 15p to 206p yesterday, fuelled by rumours that an American insurer was about to mount a dawn raid on the company's shares. But a spokesman said that the company was "mystified" by the rumours. "We have nothing on the boil at the moment," he said.

However, investment analysts expect to hear today either news of an outright bid for CU, or details of a deal to offload the troubled United States side.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index:1113.6 up 10.0 (day's high: 1116.5, low: 1109.3)
FT Index: 881.8 up 6.6
FT Gilts: 83.25 up 0.06
FT All Share: 524.77 up 3.63
Bargains: 26.362
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 113.79 up 0.13
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1178.92 up 4.3
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,801.55 up 100.68
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1057.09 down 61.76
Amsterdam: 170.1 up 0.9
Sydney: AO Index 745.1 up 8.9
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1020.6 down 2.8
Brussels: General Index 110.29 up 0.01
Paris: CAC Index 163.6 up 1.1
Zurich: SKA General 313.1 up 0.4

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
$1.4475 up 5pts
Index 80.4 down 0.1
DM 3.7550 down 0.0050
FrF 11.56 down 0.0050
Yen 324.75 down 1.50
Dollar
Index 126.0 down 0.6
DM 2.5892 down 0.009

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4505
Dollar DM 2.5857

INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.595239
SDR £0.735538

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 8½
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9⅝
3 month interbank 9 - 8⅞
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10$^{9}/_{16}$ - 10$^{11}/_{16}$
3 month DM 5$^{11}/_{16}$ - 5$^{9}/_{16}$
3 month Fr F14⅝ - 14⅜
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.50
Fed funds 10
Treasury long bond 96$^{13}/_{32}$ - 96$^{17}/_{32}$
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period February 8, 1984 to March 6, 1984 inclusive: 9.373 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $390.35 pm $390.25
close $389.50-390 (£269-269.50)
New York (latest): $390
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$401.50-403 (£277.25-278.25)
Sovereigns* (new):
$92-93 (£63.50-64.25)
*Excludes VAT

Lotus 'will bar gates' to Revenue

By Jonathan Clare

Group Lotus, the Norfolk-based maker of prestige sports cars, will bar its gates on Monday morning to three special investigators of the Inland Revenue who have been examining its books.

The move, decided on by Mr Wickins, the group's new chairman, is the prelude to legal action in the High Court if an appeal to the Inland Revenue Commissioners against protective tax assessments totalling £85m fails. Mr Wickens said yesterday that he had lost patience with the Inland Revenue over the protective assessments. They were made part of the investigation into the missing millions from the DeLorean failed car venture in Northern Ireland.

Mr Wickins said yesterday that the decision had been taken on Wednesday because the *investigation had badly hit* Lotus' new car sales in the US.

"We have given them access to all our books and papers and they said it would take about six weeks", he said. "They have been sitting there looking glum *and smug for 14 weeks.*"

He added that if Lotus loses the appeal to the Inland Revenue Commissioners he would go to the High Court to get Lotus's books but "we will oppose it".

Mr Wickins said that protec*tive assesments were misunderstood in the US. "The De Lorean case is big news there and they always refer in the last paragraph of a story to a $140m tax assessment on Lotus." he added that if any De Lorean money was missing "this company has not had that. Mr Wickins said this had cost *Lotus a lot of sales.

Debenhams in retail link-up with Harris

By Our City Staff

Harris Queensway, one of the most successful retailers in the country, is joining forces with Debenhams to establish joint furniture, carpet and electrical businesses in Debenhams' 68 department stores.

Harris Queensway will benefit from increased sales, improved *economies of scale and a* move into electrical retailing.

Debenhams, the subject of some bid speculation, has firmly denied that the venture was defensive.

Mr Peter Davis, the deputy chairman of Harris, said yesterday that the first openings should be in June. The likely form would be joint equity participation.

Harris's expertise in carpet and furniture retailing means its management would be more involved running that side of the business in a new company. A second company is likel;y to ber *formed for the electrical* business, in which Debenhams will have a greater managerial share.

The two new companies will be operated in virtually all the department stores as concessions. Debenhams already runs its furniture business as a separate profit centre.

The news follows record *results from Harris for the third* year running, with profits up from £16.3m to £25.6m. Trading in the first 13 weeks of the current year was up by 30 per cent, helped by the Budget reduction in stamp duty and good house-buying figures.

Mr Phil Harris, the chairman also revealed that the group had taken a 5 per cent equity stake in the Symphony Group, a private Leeds company which has kitchen concessions in most Queensway stores. Symphony made £1m last year.

Seven new shops will be opened this year, and Harris is *waiting for planning permission* for a further 13.

Grand Met sells subsidiary

By Jeremy Warner

Grand Metropolitan has agreed to sell its CC Soft Drinks offshoot, the third largest soft drinks company in Britain, to Coca-Cola for an undisclosed sum. Analysts said the deal could work up to £30m.

CC Soft Drinks is one of two independent companies in Britain through which, Coca-Cola, the largest soft drinks company in the world, sells its products.

The other is Beecham Group which has the franchise for Coca-Cola products for the northern half of Britain and ranks number two in the domestic drinks market.

Greene King & Sons, the brewing group which has a 10.1 per cent minority shareholding in CC Soft Drinks, has also agreed to back the deal.

CC Soft Drinks employs over 1,500 people in southern Britain and has yearly sales of about £90m.

The initiative for the deal came from Coca-Cola, which said last night that it wanted to expanded its direct presence in *Britain because it was encour*aged by signs of economic growth and an expected rise in the soft drinks market.

A spokesman for Coca-Cola said that the purchase of CC Soft Drinks should not be taken *as an indication that the* company is altering its policy of exploiting and developing overseas markets through a system of independent bottlers. He said that the company had no intention of attempting to buy out Beecham's soft drinks business.

TSB profitability up 70%

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Trustee Savings Banks, the biggest personal banking group in the country with 6 million customers, yesterday reported a rise in operating profits from £130m to £155m the year to last November 20.

TSB Group is due to be privatized through an offer for sale of shares which could be worth up to £900m, according to City estimates. Legislation is needed first and flotation is now expected between December *1985* and June *1986.*

Excluding profits on investments and government stocks which were 56 per cent lower at £23m, underlying profitability increased by 70 per cent. This was largely due to the rise in income generated by new loans. The group has traditionally been very underlent and remains so compared with the big clearing banks. However, last year advances rose by 47 per cent to £2.7 billion, although total assets grew by only 11 per cent to £9.6 billion.

All the group's operations showed improvements

Journalist faces SEC inquiry

From Nick Gilbert
New York

The Wall Street Journal yesterday reported one of its senior journalists, Mr R. Foster Winans, is under investigation by the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

The commission – more used to probing insider dealings by corporate executives – is investigating allegations that Mr Winans leaked the contents of articles ahead of publication. A number of share dealers are alleged tyo have made illicit profits.

Mr Winans left the paper yesterday. His lawyer refused to say whether Mr Winans had gained financially or otherwise from the alleged leaks.

He said: "I have instructed my attorney that I wish to continue to cooperate fully with the commission.

Turnround at Ibstock

● Ibstock Johnsen, the Leicester brick maker, yesterday reported a dramatic turnround in trading fortunes. Pretax losses of £1.9m in 1982 have been turned into profits of £6.6m for last year. A final dividend of 3.75p is being recommended raising the total for the year from 4.5p to 5.5p. Mr Paul Hyde-Thomson, the chairman, said the group was on target for another big advance this year.

Tempus, page 19

● Lucas Industries, the car component manufacturers, has reported a £3.5m pretax profit for the first half year to January 31. It has turned round the £5.2m loss recorded for the same period last year. Pretax profit for the full year to July 1983 was £2.1m. The interim dividend of 2.6p has been maintained. Total dividends last year were 8.6p. Turnover also increased by £75m to £659m for the six month period. Turnover for the full year was £1,216m last time.

Tempus, page 19

● Croda International prifits rose from £15m to £17.6m for the yer ended December 25 on sales ahead from £307m to £341m. The net dividend is unchanged at 7p on earnings up from 7.18p to 8.43p, fully diluted post tax.

Tempus, page 19

● Fire damage cost British insurers £32.2m in February, bringing the total so far this year to £70.3m

NEWS IN BRIEF

North Sea oil bonus

North Sea oil output is *running at the rate of more than* £2m-worth every hour, according to estimates today.

And the Government may still be underestimating the amount of revenue it will get from North Sea oil this year.

The claim was made by the Royal Bank of Scotland, which publishes a monthly index of production from the North Sea.

The Budget forecast of revenues worth £10.2 billion in the coming year seems "cautious *rather than optimistic*", according to bank analysts. The true figure could be "nearer £11 billion".

Production in February hit a new record for the fourth successive month, with an average daily output of 2.55 million barrles, a nearly 14 per cent rise on February last year.

● *Up to 90 oil* fields could be developed in British waters over the next 20 years involving an investment of £50 to £60 billion, Dr John Jennings, managing director of shell UK exploration and production, said in Glasgow.

● **The Italian Tito Campanella**, 13,340 tons, posted overdue with a 24-man crew in Biscay in January, was the first ship in nearly two years toa be posted at Lloyds as "missing".

US bank suspends loans to Argentina

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US Export Import Bank has abruptly suspended new loans and credit guarantees to Argentina as concern grows that Buenos Aires will refuse to meet interest payments on its $43 billion debt, and that other debtor nations will follow suit.

At the same time, it was learned that President Reagan had personally intervened in the *negotiations between Argentina* and a crisis team at the US Treasury.

Mr Reagan is reported to have expressed *his concern over* the stalled negotiations and to have asked for a special report on Argentina's bargaining position on its large outstanding debt – $8.5 billion (£5.6 billion) of which is owed to US banks.

Meanwhile, US Treasury officials said that althoughf the talks continued, they were not confident that Argentina would meet a crucial weekend deadline for repayment of about $2.5 billion in overdue interest payments.

Officials said a "good-faith payment" of from $300 to $800m by tomorrow would be enough to avert a ruling by US regulatory authorities that the loans were non-performing and should therefore be classified as *losses against* the earnings of US banks.

Analysts estimated yesterday a decision by Argentina not to *meet its present interest schedule* would cost nine of the largest American banks about 3 per cent of their annual earnings for the year and possibly more.

The latest crisis in the continuing debt problem was triggered by statements earlier in the week by Señor Bernardo Grinspun, Argentina's finance minister, that his nation would not pay interest on outstanding loans before the March 31 deadline.

He told ministers at the meeting *in Uruguay of the* Inter-American Development Bank that his country would not meet the deadline because it did not wish to deplete its small amount of foreign reserves estimated at $1 billion.

These statements coupled with the fact that Argentina had earlier failed to pay $33.5m in principle and interest on loans to public sector enterprises and private business which were due on February 29, prompted the US Exim Bank to cut off all new *funds.*

An Exim spokesman said yesterday the agency would continue to withhold funds from Argentina while it reviewed the ongoing discussions the Latin government is holding with *the* IMF, *the* Reagan Administration, private banks and other foreign governments.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Why agencies cannot cope with demand

By Derek Harris

Local enterprise agencies are doing a lot of useful things, not least in helping create more jobs, but they are also facing a number of criticisms, largely because they have insufficient resources to meet all the demands being made on them.

This emerges clearly from a Department of Environment report*, out this week, based on a survey of would-be small business principals who sought advice from six of the well established enterprise agencies. The agencies involved were Business Link, Runcorn; In Business, Birkenhead; Rossendale Enterprise Trust, Rawtenstall; Business Initiative, Hanley; Wolverhampton Enterprises; and Leicester Business Venture.

Despite the obvious limitations of such a comparatively small survey it points some sharp lessons. Most enterprise agencies are sponsored by, among others, bigger locally-based companies some of which offer free advice for clients of the enterprise agency, yet there appears to be little use made of these offers.

No follow-up

Yet most enterprise agencies appear to be fully-stretched, as the survey points out, so why not involve such sponsoring companies much more? It could relieve some of the pressures on the agencies and possibly leave them more time to extend some of their other activities.

Another gap identified is that the hard-pressed agencies appear to find little time, once a small business client has been dealt with, to follow up subsequent progress. Half the clients heard no more from an agency after an initial visit yet it transpired that half of those thus neglected would have welcomed a follow-up inquiry.

The survey showed that three-quarters of clients needed further advice after the initial visit although there was a clear trend towards seeking help from professionals like accountants.

Agencies should do more about follow-ups because it could sort out problems before they became too serious, the report suggests. It adds: "Some clients tend to soldier on with problems until it is almost too late to solve them and the involvement of an agency at the crisis stage leads to lengthy and complex counselling which could have been avoided had the client been visited earlier".

There was a counter viewpoint put forward that it was up to clients to revisit agencies. The survey showed that 45 per cent of those needing subsequent advice did in fact go back.

The other side of the coin is that some clients clearly expect far too much from an agency. Some expect to have all their problems solved by one visit and to come out of the agency door with a total package in their hands, the survey found.

Some 65 per cent of inquiries at agencies are for general information on starting up and particularly for financial advice. The second biggest source of inquiry was for premises, accounting for 15 per cent of approaches. The quality of both financial advice such as which bank to approach and information on premises came in for criticism but at least some of this could have arisen from a lack of understanding how far agencies can go in steering clients and giving advice.

Important role

The agencies, of which there are now 170 around the country, are nevertheless clearly helping a lot of newcomers to business. The survey showed 70 per cent of clients felt their expectations of help had been fulfilled while 85 per cent were prepared to recommend others to go to an agency. Some 40 per cent rated the agencies as "very good."

It became apparent how important a role in success was played by an agency director, often an executive seconded from a big company or organizations like banks. Effective caring agencies typically had directors of sound business experience able to get along with people, able to hold full counselling sessions and to meet problems by offering appointments at short notice.

* *Enterprise Agencies: the clients' views. Copies from: Business in the Community, 227A City Road, London EC1.*

Country workshops catch on

A grants scheme for converting derelict rural buildings into *workshops is proving so popular it* is likely to launch at least 300 new small businesses during the next 12 months, *Derek Harris writes.*

Grants amounting to around £1.5m are likely to be involved according to the **Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (Cosira)** which is administering the scheme for the Development Commission. Cosira is the executive arm of the Commission which tackles economic and social problems in rural areas.

A year ago the Commission extended a 35 per cent grant scheme to cover a wide range of rural buildings, including disused barns, mills and forges, in remoter rural areas of England. In the first 11 months some 200 projects have been approved, involving about £1m in grants. But the rate of take-up in the scheme latterly has been accelerating.

The first 59 projects completed have produced 304 jobs at a grant cost per job of £751. Nigel Vinson, Development Commission chairman, said: "We are absolutely delighted with these results. The scheme has proved even more successful than we originally hoped."

BRIEFING

It means work for local builders during the conversion period as well as providing much-needed starter premises for small businesses. It keeps employment in the rural areas without using up greenfield sites and at a low cost per job.

Up to 35 per cent of a conversion project can be met under the scheme where the grant maximum is normally £17,500. Average grants so far are running at between £5,000 and £7,000.

Because there is no slackening in demand for the grants, Cosira has estimated the likely project rate at 300 a year. The experiment in extending the grant scheme is due to end next March but this is now under review and it looks likely that the scheme will be extended.

● *Contact: Cosira, 141 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 3TP; telephone (0722) 336255.*

MR FRIDAY

'It must be spring'

Baronsmead Business Expansion Scheme is laying claim to being first past the post in the scramble to invest funds before the end of the financial year, *Vivien Goldsmith writes.*

Baronsmead was one of only four BESs launched this year to be oversubscribed by the time it closed. It has placed £1.6 million *with nine companies - mostly high-risk ventures in the high technology* field. These include Interface Network microcomputer shops, Laserfix land surveying instruments, Imperial Biotechonolgy, and Frenger Holdings, a radiant technology heating systems company that was bought by the management.

Baronsmead has also raised £5.7 million for these companies from other sources including Fountain Development Fund, a managed fund of Hill Samuel, 31 Ventures, Oxford University and a managed fund of Schroder Wagg.

Electra Investment Trust and Investors in Industry (3I) are investing more than £1m between them in a new company which is reviving Corgi die-cast toys. The new company, Stockshoe which is being renamed Corgi Toys, has bought for £1.2m the Corgi factory near Swansea from the receivers of the failed Mettoy group.

The receivers had shut down production of Corgi toys at the end of January but yesterday the new company, headed by former Mettoy director, Michael Rosser, brought in 100 workers to re-start production. Another 100 will be employed from next Monday and within a few weeks Mr Rosser hopes the workforce total will rise to 400.

Electra Investment which should not be confused with its subsidiary Electra Risk Capital that specializes in small business start-ups, channels largely institutional money and has about half of its resources in smaller unlisted companies. Its investment in the Corgi enterprise is £860,000. 3I has put in another £400,000.

Providing capital investment funds for factory development is the Welsh Office which has offered an immediate £500,000 to be followed by as much again over a four year period.

Greater London Enterprise Board, the job-creation arm of Greater London Council, has made a £150,000 loan to finance expansion by a manufacturer of oriental foods, **Binisa Oriental Foods of Woolwich.** Binisa employs 28 people producing snacks like samosas and spring rolls but it is now expected that 16 *additional jobs will be created over* the next two years.

● *Contact: Greater London Enterprise Board, 63-67 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BD; telephone (01) 403 0300.*

Recovery in profits at Bridon

After the setback in 1982, profits of Bridon, the South Yorkshire-based makers of wire rope, recovered last year. Pretax profits more than doubled, rising from £5.1m to £11.1m.

This takes them above the 1981 level, but still a long way short of some of the results achieved in the 1970s. Turnover of Bridon and its subsidiaries rose only slightly, from £153.9m to £158.2m. The total dividend is being lifted from 3p to 3.5p a share.

During 1984, the board is aiming to consolidate the better level of profit from Britain reached in 1983. The group's financial position remains strong.

In brief

● **DESOUTTER BROTHERS (HOLDINGS):** Proposed one-for-one scrip issue, Dividend for 1983 7p (5.7p) net a share. Turnover £27.68m (£25.53m). Pretax profit £2.73m (£1.69m).

● **NEWMAN INDUSTRIES:** Pretax profits for 1983 up from £400,000 to £3.6m on turnover virtually unhanged at £71.3m (£72.3m). No dividend (same). Board reports that group management accounts for first two months of current year show an improvement over previous year. After a difficult three years, board looks forward with increasing confidence.

● **BERNARD MATTHEWS:** Turnover for 1983 £75.89m (£62.71m). Record pretax profit of £7.01m (£5.71m). Total dividend 6.5p (5.25p).

● **RICHARDS (LEICESTER):** Turnover for 1983 (£5.27m). Pretax loss £197,000 (loss £347,000). Dividend 2p (same).

● **CHLORIDE:** Group's subsidiaries, Chloride Shires and Chloride Shires Ireland, have been bought by Sir Richard Sutton's Settled Estates. The sale is worth about £9.5m to Chloride.

● **BRAY TECHNOLOGIES:** Profits for the first six months of 1984 from Bray Technologies, which came to the over-the-counter market last November, are likely to be down on last time, unless there is an improvement in the gas-heating order book. The warning came from Mr George Bray, the chairman, in the annual report. He is due to retire at the annual meeting next month. The company makes gas burners and electrical heating elements. Orders on the electrical side are holding up well.

● **LAMBERT HOWARTH GROUP:** One-for-five scrip issue for second year runni ng. Pretax profit for 1983 £1.32m (£1m). Total dividend raised from an adjusted 4.79p to 5.75p net a share.

● **AMBER DAY HOLDINGS:** Half-year to Nov 26, 1983. Turnover £4.07m (£4.47m). Pretax loss £100,000 (profit of £280,000 last time).

● **NEWEY GROUP:** Turnover for 1983 £14.56m (£12.04m). Pretax profit £1.02m (£670,000).

● **JOVE INVESTMENT TRUST:** Pretax revenue for year to Feb 29, 1984, £920,000 (£839,000). Total dividend 4.5p (4.3p).

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STOCK MARKET REPORT

Bank shares help dispel gloom

By Wayne Lintott

The banking sector, assisted by the Wall Street rally, injected market sentiment with the necessary energy to help it overcome the depression of a falling Hongkong market. Having jumped nine points at the opening, the *FT* 30 share index finally ended the day 6.6 up at 881.8.

The main impetus to banking shares came from *The Times* disclosure that accountants were likely to take a lenient view of the clearing banks' deferred tax liabilities relating to leasing, and spread the liability over several years.

Lloyds Bank gained 18p to 592p, **Barclays** rose 13p to 517p, the **Midland** gained 5p to 389p and **National Westminster** gained 10p to 672p after 679p.

Lloyds was a talking point as rumours increased that it was casting acquisitive eyes towards **Mercury Securities**, the holding company of Merchant bankers S. G. Warburg, the merchant banker.

Mercury has already taken a stake in Ackroyd & Smithers, one of London's two biggest jobbing firms. Lloyds is the only remaining clearing bank without a link with a stock market firm and after the Natwest and Barclays moves the pressure is thought to be on. Taking Mercury would give Lloyds a direct stake equivalent to its rivals and allow it to move straight into the comprehensive international dealing business Mercury and Ackroyd are forming.

Mercury shares slipped 5p to 603p as Lloyds and Mercury refused to comment on the speculation. Reports that Lloyds might approach the leading broker, Hoare Govett, was dismissed as Security Pacific of Los Angeles reaffirmed that it would be unwilling to sell its stake in Hoare.

Insurance shares also came in for renewed support as the companies continued to disclose higher profits and dividends in the middle of the reporting season.

Commercial Union was highlighted, rising 15p to 206p, as the company is widely thought to be considering the disposal of its problematic United States operations.

The most likely buyer is thought to be **Equitable Life**, who, it is suggested, have bid for 60 per cent of the US business. Commercial Union was also the potential target of a possible dawn raid coming from the American International Group.

The insurance companies are widely expected to be the next sector of Britain's financial community to come under predator attack. **Prudential** gained 15p to 480p on comment after Wednesday's surprise 26 per cent rise in its dividend – again thought to be a defensive move.

Much speculation now surrounds the Prudential's response to the changes taking place in the City and how it might best use its 15,000 sales team and 450 high street premises. The company is dismissive of suggestions that it might decide to make a big acquisition itself if American and European giants decide to compete for it.

Elsewhere in the sector, **Legal & General** gained 5p to 488p after hitting 490p as the market reacted to its profit figures.

The cautious Mr John Harvey-Jones, chairman of ICI, Britain's biggest industrial company, has caused some flutters among brokers' analysts. They have been widely predicting that ICI would make pretax profits of more than £1b next year, and £850m this year.

As reported in *The Times* yesterday, in a series of lunches Mr Harvey-Jones has been having with leading brokers, he is reported to have warned them that a billion is a bit too optimistic for 1985. He feels that the US economy may run out of steam in the second quarter of this year, thus forcing the American chemical concern to unload products in Europe.

Brokers analysts may soon be taking out their multi-beaded abacus to re-rate the shares of merchant bank, Henry Ansbacher. They met their new minority stake holders yesterday, Groupe Bruxelles Lambert -who are paying 100p a share for their yet, undisclosed, interest. Apparently the Belgians are prepared to front far more capital than just that paid for its minority interest. The Belgians are prepared to finance some major moves by Ansbacher into Eurobonds and market-making activity on the stock exchange. Except an announcement soon.

Apparently, this is only his personal view; many leading analysts did not agree and were maintaining their bullish posture.

At ICI a spokesman refused to comment on the lunches, but added: "The continuing view of the chairman and the ICI board is that 1984 will be a better year than 1983 and the long term prospects are good".

ICI shares fell 12p to 608p.

Elsewhere among the leaders, only five of the FT 30 closed lower. **Bowater** once again provided a good fillip on its decision to demerge its US interests. The shares closed 23p higher at 332p ex rights with the nil paid new at 117p.

That situation created a spot-the-next-company-to-do-the-same game on the market floor. Among the leaders thought most likely to benefit from such moves were **Reed International**, up 20p at 440p, **Grand Metropolitan**, up 12p at 332p, and **Royal Insurance**, up 17p at 593p.

Most other gains were confined to about 5p but **Lucas** managed to recoup a 7p loss incurred after its profit figures were announced, and the shares closed unchanged at 220p.

Blue Circle dropped 5p on reports that a price war had developed in a once lucrative Irish market. **British Aerospace** gained 11p to 239p on news of better-than-expected profits. Among the special situations, the property to contracting company, Wiggins Group, spurted 5p to 61p on vague speculation of an impending bid.

Wiggins financial director, Mr Edward Pickard, said he knew of no reason for the sudden increase in the share price. Certainly, the company's recent profit performance has been poor with exceptional losses reported in the first half. **Newarthill**, the McAlpine overall parent company, holds a 24.3 per cent stake and the property portfolio of Wiggins, added to the construction business, could prove appealing to the now widely diversifying building giant.

The two newcomers to the stock market, **Robertson Research** and **Connells** estate agents, make sparkling debuts. Both share offers had been heavily oversubscribed when they were offered for sale and opened sharply above the offer prices.

Robertson, the oil and gas survey group, where the offer of 2.5 million shares at 160p was oversubscribed 123 times, saw its shares start trading at 264p, a premium of 104p. Later the shares reached a peak of 305p before coming back to close at 246p.

Connells, the Luton-based estate agents, which joined the only previously quoted estate agent, Bairstow Eves, on the market yesterday saw its shares open at 153p against the 120p offer price, at which the offer was oversubscribed 61 times. Later the shares reached a peak of 160p before coming back to close at 146p, a premium of 26p.

Control Securities, the London property group, yesterday announced that two members of its five-man board have retired. Mr Christopher John is leaving because he has reached retirement age, while Count Friedrich von Schlieffen is leaving because of poor health.

The will be replaced by Mr Nicholas Somerville and Mr Michael Smith, a taxation expert. The shares closed the day unchanged at 51p.

Equity turnover yesterday was valued at £317.576m (22,117 bargains). Gilt bargains were 3,216 and the number of Irish shares traded was 176 million.

The Finance Bill

Relief stays for old life policies – on strict terms

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Fears that life assurance policies might lose further tax benefits as a result of changes slipped into the Finance Bill were stilled with the Bill's publication yesterday.

Apart from changing the basis of offshore policies, as laid out last November, the Bill concentrates on the removal of 15 per cent income tax relief on insurance premiums.

However, the abolition of relief, which is aimed at policies taken out after March 13, is so tightly drawn that it will affect many people who took out flexible policies before that date, some indeed as a result of pre-Budget leaks on the abolition of premium relief.

Policies taken out before March 13 will lose all their premium relief if the policy is varied after that date, either to increase the benefits (and hence the premiums) or to extend the term. The same applies if a policy carries options to convert or change its terms. If such options are taken up, premium relief will disappear.

Even policies that lose their premium relief will, however, continue to qualify for relief from income tax above the basic rate on death, surrender or maturity.

This means that holders of life assurance policies will need to be extremely careful about making any changes to them, and will probably be well-advised to maintain any existing policies in their present form.

Mr Marshall Field, chairman of the life Offices Association, said yesterday that it was important that the effect of changes in life assurance policies should be clarified.

"There clearly has to be some sort of control", he said, but urged that the loss of premium relief on existing policies should be restricted to discretionary changes made by the policyholder. He thought it ought not to affect changes which were already built into policy contracts which, for instance, carry lower premiums in the early years with a pre-arranged build-up later.

The association has sent out a letter in the hope of building up opposition to the abolition of premium relief.

Rules for share options

Significant expansion of executive share options is expected after Budget changes which are amplified in the Finance Bill. Option schemes approved by the Inland Revenue after April 5 will not be liable to income tax. Instead, the proceeds will be liable to capital gains tax on the difference between the full cost of the option and the net disposal value of the shares obtained after the option is exercised.

Under capital gains tax rules, tax will only be liable when the shares received are sol and therefore not necessarily when the option is exercised. Furthermore, indexation under gains tax rules will remove increases in the value of the shares under option up to the level of changes in the retail price index, from any tax liability.

It is unlikely that the Revenue will be able to approve any of the new schemes before August when the Finance Bill is expected to receive the Royal Assent.

The main conditions for approval by the Revenue will be that:

a) The limit for options granted will be the higher of £100,000 or four times the employee's annual pay.

b) The option price of the shares must not be at a "manifest discount on their market value at that time.

c) Options can only be exercised between five and ten years after they are granted.

d) The scheme must be restricted to full time directors or employees except in cases of death or leaving employment.

As foreshadowed, the limit for monthly contributions to savings related employee share option schemes is raised from £50 to £100 (with a minimum of £10).

Those exercising options under unapproved schemes granted, though not necessarily exercised, before April 5, can now spread the income tax liability on exercising the option over five years instead of three.

● The Finance Bill confirms a curious anomaly thrown up by the abolition of the investment income surcharge announced in the Budget. The accountants Spicer and Pegler believe that the trustees of discretionary trusts will still be liable to pay the 15 per cent surcharge, although when the trust makes an income distribution after April 5, the beneficiary can claim back the surcharge from the Inland Revenue.

WALL STREET

Shares open higher

Prices opened higher on Wall Street in active early trading yesterday.

The Dow Jones average was down 1.88 to 1172.74 shortly after the market opened.

Advances led declines 565-339 among the 1,279 issues crossing the Stock Exchange tape.

Many analysts were surprised that institutions, which had been accumulating large cash positions during the past two months, came off the sidelines on Wednesday to buy heavily into blue-chip, insurance, television network and defence issues.

Brokers expected the surge to continue at the outset of yesterday's session.

	Mar 28	Mar 27
AMP Inc	14¼	14
AMR	34⅞	33¼
Allied Chem	51½	51
Allied Stores	40¾	40¼
Allis Chalmers	12½	12¼
Alcoa	41¼	40¾
Amax Inc	27	26¾
Amerada Hess	30¾	30¾
Am Brands	60¾	58¼
Am Broadcast	60¼	58¾
Am Can	47	46¾
Am Cyanamid	47⅞	46⅞
Am Elec Power	16⅞	16⅞
Am Home	63	62½
Am Motors	8¼	8⅛
Am Nat Res	48½	47⅞
Am Standard	29¼	29⅞
Am Telephone	15¾	16⅛
Armco Steel	21	19½
Asarco	32⅞	31¼
Ashland Oil	37	36⅞
Atlantic Richfield	47½	46⅞
Avco	29⅞	29⅞
Avon Products	23⅞	23
Bankers Tst NY	44	43¾
Bank of America	20½	20½
Bank of Boston	39½	38¾
Bank of NY	29½	29¾
Beatrice Foods	33¾	32⅞
Bethlehem Steel	27⅞	26⅞
Boeing	38⅞	37
Boise Cascade	40½	39¼
Borden	54¾	53
Borg Warner	29⅞	29
Bristol Myers	47⅞	45¾
BP	29⅞	29⅞
Burlington Ind	29⅞	29
Burlington Nthn	44⅞	43⅞
Burroughs	50⅞	49⅞
Campbell Soup	59¾	60
Canadian Pacific	34¼	33¾
Caterpillar	52½	50
Celanese	72¼	71¼
Central Soya	15¾	15¾
Chase Manhat	49⅞	48
Chem Bank NY	47	47
Chrysler	26⅞	25⅞
Citicorp	35¼	34⅞
Clark Equip	35¾	33⅞
Coca Cola	55¾	54¾
Colgate	23¼	22⅞
CBS	71½	69¼
Columbia Gas	37½	36¼
Combustion Eng	29⅞	28¾
Comwlth Edison	29¾	29¾
Cons Edison	24	23¾
Cons Foods	37½	37¼
Cons Power	10	10⅛
Continental Grp	33⅞	33⅞
Control Data	38¼	37½
Corning Glass	63⅞	63
CPC Intnl	38¾	38⅞
Crane	33½	33¾
Crocker Int	28¼	27¾
Crown Zeller	37⅞	36
Dart & Kraft	73⅞	73¼
Deere	33⅞	33¼
Delta Air	36⅞	35⅞
Detroit Edison	13	12⅞
Disney	63½	62¾
Dow Chemical	30⅞	30¼
Dresser Ind	21½	21
Duke Power	24⅞	23⅞
Du Pont	49⅞	48⅞
Eastern Air	5¾	5½
Eastman Kodak	63⅞	62¾
Eaton Corp	49½	49
Emhart	43½	42¾
Evans P D.	6⅞	6¾
Exxon Corp	39	38⅞
Fed Dept Stores	49	48⅞
Firestone	17⅞	17⅞
Fst Chicago	25⅞	24

	Mar 28	Mar 27
Fst Intrst Bncp	38¼	38⅞
Fst Penn Corp	6½	6½
Ford	37⅞	36
GAF Corp	17	17
GTE Corp	38¼	38⅞
Gen Dynamics	46⅞	45¾
Gen Electric	54⅞	52½
Gen Foods	47⅞	47¾
Gen Mills	48½	46¼
Gen Motors	65¾	63
Gen Pub Util NY	8	8
Gen Tire	32½	32¼
Genesco	6⅞	6⅞
Georgia Pacific	24⅞	23½
Getty Oil	127½	127½
Gillette	47⅞	47⅞
Goodrich	33½	32⅞
Goodyear	26	25⅞
Gould Inc	29¾	29
Grace	41⅞	41
Gt Atlc & Pacific	15¾	14¼
Greyhound	24⅞	24½
Grumman Corp	22⅞	22⅞
Gulf Oil	77¼	76¼
Gulf & West	32½	31⅞
Heinz H. J.	39½	38⅞
Hercules	35⅞	34⅞
Honeywell	57	55½
IC Inds	44⅞	44⅞
Ingersoll	49⅞	48½
Inland Steel	28⅞	27⅞
IBM	110⅞	113⅞
Int Harvester	9	8¾
INCO	14¼	14
Int Paper	50¾	53⅞
Int Tel Tel	41¼	40⅞
Irving Bank	57⅞	57⅞
Jewel Co	48⅞	46½
Jim Walter	38¼	33½
Johnson & John	35	34⅞
Kaiser Alumin	15⅞	15⅞
Kerr McGee	31⅞	30⅞
Kimberly Clark	92¼	91⅞
K Mart	30⅞	29⅞
Kroger	31¼	30⅞
L.T.V Corp	17¼	17
Litton	65½	63
Lockheed	32⅞	31½
Lucky Stores	15	15⅞
Manuf Hanover	35	35¼
Manville Cp	10⅛	10⅞
Mapco	29⅞	28⅞
Marine Midland	23⅞	23⅞
Martin Marietta	32	31¼
McDonnell	50½	49⅞
Mead	36½	36⅞
Merck	93⅞	93¾
Minnesota Mng	74½	74⅞
Mobil Oil	30¼	30¼
Monsanto	91¼	91¼
Morgan J. P.	67¼	66¾
Motorola	117⅞	114⅞
NCR Corp	113	109¾
NL Industries	15⅞	15⅞
Nabisco	41⅞	41½
Nat Distillers	27⅞	27½
Nat Med Ent	21	20⅞
Norfolk South	58½	58¾
NW Bancorp	31⅞	32
Occidental Pet	29⅞	29¼
Ogden	25⅞	26¼
Olin Corp	28⅞	27¼
Owens-Illinois	36¼	36⅞
Pacific Gas Elec	13⅞	13
Pan Am	6⅞	6⅞
Penney J. C.	50⅞	50⅞
Pennzoil	37⅞	36⅞
Pepsico	37⅞	37⅞
Pfizer	34½	34⅞
Phelps Dodge	26⅞	26⅞
Philip Morris	67⅞	66⅞
Phillips Petrol	41	40¼
Polaroid	28⅞	27⅞

	Mar 28	Mar 27
PPG Ind	36½	36⅞
Proctr Gamble	48⅞	46⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	29¾	28¾
Raytheon	37⅞	36¾
RCA Corp	32⅞	31
Republic Steel	21⅞	20¼
Reynolds Ind	57¼	57⅞
Reynolds Metal	38¼	34½
Rockwell Int	25¼	25
Royal Dutch	52½	51¼
Safeways	24⅞	23¾
St Regis Paper	41¼	41⅞
SFE Sopac	24¼	24
SCM	37⅞	37
Schlumberger	53½	53⅞
Scott Paper	30⅞	31¼
Seagram	34¼	33⅞
Sears Roebuck	33¾	31⅞
Shell Oil	60	61½
Shell Trans	37½	37½
Signal Co	27⅞	27⅞
Singer	24⅞	24¼
Smithkline Beck	53⅞	52¼
Sony	17¼	16⅞
Sth Cal Edison	36⅞	36⅞
Sperry Corp	41½	41⅞
Std Oil Califnia	36⅞	35
Std Oil Indiana	55⅞	53⅞
Std Oil Ohio	46⅞	44½
Sterling Drug	28	25⅞
Stevens J. P.	20⅞	20⅞
Sun Comp	53¼	51⅞
Teledyne	160⅞	167⅞
Tenneco	40	39⅞
Texaco	39	39
Texas East Corp	64⅞	63¼
Texas Inst	140	137½
Texas Utilities	22⅞	22⅞
Textron	29⅞	29
TWA	26⅞	26⅞
Travelers Corp	35⅞	34⅞
TRW Inc	67⅞	65⅞
UAL Inc	31¼	30⅞
Union Carbide	56⅞	54⅞
Union Oil Calif	36⅞	35
Un Pacific Corp	45⅞	44¼
Uniroyal	12⅞	12½
United Brands	18½	18⅞
US Industries	19⅞	18⅞
US Steel	31	30⅞
Utd Technol	65⅞	61⅞
Wachovia	44⅞	44⅞
Warner Comms	23⅞	23⅞
Warner Lambert	34½	33⅞
Wells Fargo	37⅞	36
Westinghse Elec	47⅞	45⅞
Weyerhauser	32⅞	31⅞
Whirlpool	41⅞	41
Woolworth	33⅞	32½
Xerox Corp	42⅞	42⅞
Zenith	29⅞	28⅞

Canadian Prices

	Mar 28	Mar 27
Abitibi	25⅞	25⅞
Alcan Alumin	44⅞	43½
Algoma Steel	24½	24⅞
Bell Telephone	29⅞	29½
Cominco	53⅞	51⅞
Cons Bathurst	26½	26⅞
Gulf Oil	18½	18⅞
Hawker/Sid Can	16	16
Imasco	35⅞	35⅞
Imperial Oil	38⅞	37⅞
Int Pipe	27⅞	27⅞
Mass.-Fergsn	4½	4⅞
Royal Trustco	29½	29½
Seagram	44	42⅞
Steel Co	26½	26⅞
Thomson N 'A'	39⅞	39⅞
Walker Hiram	34⅞	33⅞
WCT	14¼	14½

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution h Bid k Market closed n New issue p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

MONEY MARKETS

A £1 billion shortage and street demonstrations made it a day to forget in the City. The banking community struggled to keep money flows moving, despite the unrest. They succeeded – but only just.

The Bank of England eventually provided £1,041m of assistance on a shortage that increased steadily from £850m at the outset to £1,050m.

The Bank bought £255m of bills outright at established rates, arranged purchase and resale agreements on £676m of bills at rates of interest of 8 9/16-⅝ per cent (£263m to 3 April 2 and £413m to April 3), and finally lent – with the use of a back door into the Bank of England – £110m to the market.

Not surprisingly, the close proved very patchy, one or two houses having to pay up to 9½ per cent for funds, though most balanced in the region of 8¾ per cent to 9 per cent.

The authorities cited three factors when making the initial forecast of £850m shortage, all of which drained money from the market. There were £391m of bills due to be repurchased. Maturing assistance and take-up of treasury bills accounted for £230m, and there was £200m shortfall on Exchequer transactions.

Interbank overnight money stayed in the region of 8⅞ per cent for the most part, but steadily firmed to 9¼-½ per cent in a very difficult finish.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8½%
Barclays	8¾%
BCCI	8½%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*8½%
Lloyds Bank	8½%
Midland Bank	8½%
Nat Westminster	8½%
TSB	8½%
Williams & Glyn's	8½%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under [illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The 0.7 per cent rise in US leading indicators was enough to push the dollar firmer to most currencies towards the close yesterday, leaving sterling only 5 points above the overnight dollar level at 1.4475.

Although better than early levels to Europeans, the pound still shaded slightly to them. The trade-weighted index finished 0.1 off at 80.4.

At the end it had recouped some ground to Europeans and was at 2.5890 marks (£2.5980), as well as only 2 centimes cheaper to French francs at 7.9750 after 7.9225.

The dollar, just 1.2 centimes easier to Swiss francs, lost a yen at 224.10.

TEMPUS

Revitalized Ibstock earns only faint City praise

The stock market has come to expect dramatic increases in the profits of building materials companies, so it was no surprise that the share price of Ibstock Johnsen, the Leicester brick maker, eased a few pence yesterday when the group announced a spectacular turnround in its trading fortunes.

Loss elimination in Holland, where the group has disposed of its troubled brick manufacturing operation, and bouyant brick delieries in Britain helped turn losses of £1.9m in 1982 into pretax profits of £6.6m last year.

Unfortunately for Ibstock, reporting historic results in the brick-making industry has become commonplace in the wake of London Brick's ambitios forecast of £36m pretax this year – ventured in the heat of its takeover battle with Hanson Trust.

Ibstock will say little about this year, other than that the company is on target for a big increase. But £12m pretax does not look beyond the bounds of possibility.

Another spectacular increase in British profits is clearly on the cards despite a fall of 10 per cent in group brick deliveries in the first quarter. The company is currently achieving large increases in profit margins and seems happy to concede market share as it trades ever higher into the architect-specified end of the brick market.

In the US, where the group has been spending heavily on introducing its British marketing methods, Ibstock is at last poised to move into profits after so many years of losses. Brick deliveries for the first quarter were 18 per cent higher despite the appalling winter weather, and the order book is now 50 per cent up on a year ago.

Gearing is still a worry, with net debt standing at more than half of shareholders' funds. But it should come down sharply this year even before taking account of asset disposals, including the Belgium brick works, that the group is considering.

Ibstock's share price has had the run of its life over the past year and even if the group does make £12m in 1984, it is beginning to look fully valued at 214p. A great deal of new brick capacity will come on stream in Britain over the next few years which could ultimately prove damaging for brick profits, even at Ibstock's end of the market.

Croda International

Croda International has outperformed market hopes with a pretax profits jump of one-sixth to £17.6m after a sales gain of 11 per cent. But the bald figures disguise some impressive asset juggling.

Croda started 1983 with high hopes that recovery was well on the way, but burdened by an aggressive dividend policy - the cost of fighting off an unwelcome bid from Burmah – and a relatively high level of gearing, at just under a third of shareholders' funds. Lest predators should strike again, the group took a basic decision to maintain the high payout rate, which pro forma cost Croda an extra £3m a year, or roughly the yearly interest bill.

An aggressive programme of asset sales and closures provided a main avenue whereby group fulfilled its differing policy imperatives. The synthetic chemicals side was sold to Shell; a stake in Yorkshire Chemical was jettisoned; and the haste surrounding the disposals shows up in the 1983 extraordinary items debit of £2.3m —broadly closure charges, redundancy costs, and asset shortfalls on book value. A timely loan stock redemption, at £105 per cent, freed the board's hand from trustee control. The whole asset disposal programme has generated £15.7m.

Meanwhile Croda has plodded on with its determined capital expenditure programme (£11.2m), shifting the trading focus away from "smokestack" Britain and closer to consumer products. Came the dawn and the fourth-quarter of 1983, and the recovery duly materialized. With polymers picking up sharply, Croda saw a record run-up to Christmas, and 1983 group volume sales improved by perhaps 7 per cent. But the cost of working capital rocketed too, as some raw material prices soared by over 100 per cent.

The year-end picture vindicates the group's high-risk policies over the year. Net debt has fallen £10m to nearly £18m; borrowings as a percentage of equity are down to 18.7 per cent; the capital expenditure programme is even being stepped up; and the group can afford to maintain the high dividend unchanged at 7p.

The sting in the tail, from the bears' point of view, is that the current year's interest bill will be shrunk by the year-end cash inflow from the synthetic chemicals sale. The board envisages firm demand throughout 1984. Brokers' estimates of a further £4m jump in the pretax figure to £21½m may not be too excessive, leaving a target p/e of 12 at 122p relatively undemanding.

Lucas

After last year's plunging pretax profits, Lucas Industries has made a modest improvement in its first half performance for 1983-84. But it is clear that there is still much to do. After redundancy and closure costs of nearly £11m, pretax profits managed to limp into the black, avoiding a repetition of the unpleasant loss this time last year. The company is now set to consolidate its progress further in the second half and produce an even stronger recovery on the back of improved trading conditions.

The British automotive equipment market still poses problems for Lucas. The aftermarket was disappointing, although now showing improvement, and commercial vehicle output in Britain fell by 10 per cent. Even a 20 per cent increase in British car production and a 15 per cent boost to tractor production could not stem losses in this division.

The link with Smiths Industries' automotive products division last year to provide a strengthened electronics and systems arm is still to take full shape. Although some improvements have been seen, the real impact of the merger will not be felt for at least another six months.

Lucas had had to rely on its overseas automotive subsidiaries, industrial equipment companies and aerospace operations for its profits. Aerospace profits fell but should be revitalized by the Airbus project.

The second half will see another, smaller, chunk of redundancy and closure costs. By the end of the year the period of rationalization should be over for Lucas and it will be in a position to make some real progress in 1984-85.

The wait-and-see attitude which Lucas encourages was reflected in the share price which stayed firm at 220p.

Rush expected for Porsche flotation

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Porsche, the German sports car, is to go public after 53 years as a family business.

The Stuttgart-based company announced yesterday that it was to increase its stock capital from DM50m (£12m) to DM70m (£18m), offering half the new total in non-voting shares.

Quotation on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange is not expected before the end of April, but the rush to acquire a share in one of Germany's most prestigious enterprises is expected to be almost as breath-taking as the distinctive-shaped cars' own performance.

The announcement came, ironically, on the same day as Porsche's challenge to the moror-racing world where it has made its name. The company said it would not compete in this year's Le Mans race in protest against the change in regulations.

The International Sports Car Federation in Paris is to allow cars with a higher petrol consumption to take part this year, which Porsche says will put it at a disadvantage against stronger fuel consuming cars.

● WAGON FINANCE: Chairman told annual meeting that, basically, new business is running at a satisfactory level for first quarter of 1984 Recent Budget was favourable to company.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **ABACO INVESTMENTS** (formerly Greencoat Properties): Half-year to Dec. 31, 1983. Turnover £787,000 (£1.22m). Loss for period £67,000, against loss of £64,000 last time. Board remains hopeful of an overall profit for full year.

● **RAMUS HOLDINGS** (quoted on U S M): Half-year to Jan. 2, 1984. Turnover £10.89m (£8.7m). Pretax profit £256,000 (£241,000).

● **K C A DRILLING GROUP**: Results for 1983. Turnover £38.93m (£39.11m). Pretax profit £6.71m (£7.01m). Total dividend 3p (3.75p) a share.

● **MACFARLANE GROUP (CLANSMAN)**: Results for 1983. Turnover £34.1m (£31.81m). Pretax profit £2.52m (£2.15m). Total dividend raised from an adjusted 3.52p to 3.87p a share.

● **MORAY FIRTH MALTINGS** (quoted on U S M): Results for 1983. Turnover £31.77m (£26.22m). Pretax profit £1.97m (£1.48m). Total dividend 6p (2.8p) a share.

● **FAIRVIEW ESTATES**: Half-year to Dec 31, 1983. Turnover £19.56m (£17.68m). Pretax profit £4.02m (£3.11m). Interim dividend 1.6p (1.46p). Board views future with continued confidence.

● **CASTLEFIELD (KLANG) RUBBER ESTATE**: Half-year to Dec. 31, 1983. Turnover £2.9m (£1.97m). Pretax profit £1.45m (£644,000).

● **W. TYZACK, SONS & TURNER**: Half-year to Jan. 28, 1984. Turnover £3.02m (£2.4m). Pretax profit of £65,000, against a loss of £286,000. No interim payment (same).

● **SCOTTISH HERITABLE TRUST**: Results for 1983. Turnover £20.6m (23.64). Pretax profit £1.1m (£358,000). Total dividend 2.1p (2p). Current market value of building land, properties and gravel reserves included in accounts as stock-in-trade, together with current value of listed investments, exceeds book value by over £3m.

ARLAN ELECTRICAL has changed its accounting date from June 30 to March 31, resulting in a nine-month transitional accounting period, July 1, 1983 to March 31, 1984. Accounts expected to be despatched in or about July 1984.

Frances Williams talks to six signatories to a 1981 attack on government policies

The economic mirage – by 'rebel' professors

Three years ago today 364 university economists, the bulk of the academic profession, put their names to a highly critical statement on the Government's economic policies. These policies would lead not to recovery but to a deepening of the slump, they argued.

The round robin was initiated by the Cambridge University professors Frank Hahn and Robert Neild, who had been profoundly shocked by the severity of Sir Geoffrey Howe's Budget earlier in the month, at a time of rising unemployment.

Today ministers claim that far from exacerbating recession, the 1981 Budget marked the turning point for recovery. By renewing the struggle against inflation and paving the way for interest rates to fall, the Budget laid the foundations for sustained growth, they have said.

This explanation of events is not shared, however, by six signatories of the original statement contacted this week by *The Times*.






From left: Professors James Meade, Marcus Miller, Robert Neild, Sir Bryan Hopkin and Wynne Godley

The following statement issued on March 30, 1981, was signed by 364 university economists, including 76 present or past professors and the majority of post-war government chief economic advisers:

'We, who are all present or retired members of the economics staffs of British universities, are convinced that:

a) There is no basis in economic theory or supporting evidence for the Government's belief that by deflating demand they will bring inflation permanently under control and thereby induce an automatic recovery in output and employment;

b) Present policies will deepen the depression, erode the industrial base of our economy and threaten its social and political stability;

c) There are alternative policies; and

d) the time has come to reject monetarist policies and consider urgently which alternative offers the best hope of sustained economic recovery'

Professor Michael Artis, Manchester University, formerly editor of the *National Institute Economic Review* and an expert on monetary policy.

The policies that provoked the statement have essentially been eschewed since 1981. Fiscal policy relaxed a bit and, most importantly, the Government took more notice of the exchange rate.

In addition, world conditions have improved with the American recovery and, of course, the destocking associated with the drastic drop in output in 1981 was bound to come to an end.

The growth we are experiencing is not enough to have much impact on unemployment, and it is not clear whether even this rate of growth will be sustained.

But the reduction in inflation that has occurred has been bought at a smaller price so far (in terms of unemployment) than I would have expected in 1981, even though the price has been very heavy.

One reason may be that the severe recession has produced the widespread belief that full employment has gone, if not for ever then for a long time. This is bound to affect the attitudes of trade unions and employers.

Professor Wynne Godley, Cambridge University, director of the Department of Applied Economics. A former senior Treasury economist.

The recovery has been the result of a consumer credit splurge supported by moderate real fiscal expansion by the Government. The credit boom itself has been chiefly due to the easing of hire-purchase controls and the easy availability of mortgages. I expect the credit boom to collapse after this summer (two years on from the abolition of controls) and remove a major agent of expansion in the economy.

The effect of government policies on inflation has admittedly been bigger than I thought it would be. But, on the other hand, I never believed that the Government really would tolerate this level of unemployment. I was wrong on the political judgment – that people would stand for it.

Professor Sir Bryan Hopkin, chief economic adviser to the Government from 1974 to 1977 and recently retired as Professor of Economics at University College Cardiff.

The statement that present policies would deepen the depression was putting it too strongly. But I stand by the central theme that there is nothing to show that the inflation cure will last any longer than recession itself. If the economy did expand substantially I would expect the inflation problem to return.

The recovery has been mostly a turnround in stocks from heavy destocking and consumer-led demand. I would not have expected demand and production to go on falling in 1981, but I did not see how we could have the sort of recovery needed to produce a big fall in unemployment – and I still don't.

I always thought that the Government could get inflation down if it was prepared to create a lot of unemployment and stick to it. The main surprise was not so much the economics as the politics of what happened.

I could not have expected the Government to stand by and let unemployment go to three million – with the pressure from its own backbenchers and elsewhere – and then be so kindly treated by the electorate. Unemployment did not have the disastrous political effect I expected.

Professor James Meade, Nobel prizewinner and a former chief economic adviser to the Government.

I never held the view that there would never be any recovery, only that the policies would be carried out at immense cost.

I don't think there is any reason to be confident that the reduction in inflation is permanent.

When we said that policies would deepen the depression, perhaps we should have said they would sustain the rise in unemployment. Those who point to the recovery now should wait a little to see if it is sustained.

I never believed that alternatives would be easy, only that they should be tried in order to avoid the immense costs of government policies.

I remain of the view I held in 1981 – that the Government would not induce a recovery by its policies. It was a possible argument for the Government to say that the alternative – restraining wages – was difficult, but not for the Government to say that their policies would induce automatic recovery.

Professor Marcus Miller, Warwick University, a specialist in macro-economic policy and a member of the Treasury's academic panel

I don't believe there has been a recovery. The economy is growing but the level of gross domestic product remains far below its pre-recession trend path. Real wages have proved more resistant to depression than I imagined they would be in 1981. That has made me more cautious about a big expansion. I don't know how far the economy can recover without more inflation.

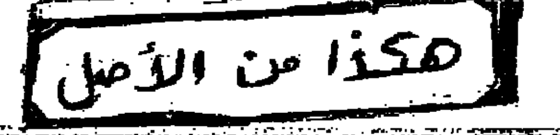
The fall in inflation, which was surprisingly swift, has only helped the recovery because government policies are designed that way. If spending plans are made in cash, lower inflation means more real spending. And the fall in inflation and the revival of demand hasn't cut unemployment.

Professor Robert Neild, University of Cambridge and co-sponsor of the statement in 1981

The main point of the 364 was that there was no reason to believe that restrictive fiscal and monetary policies that reduced inflation would induce recovery. The evidence has borne us out. Since we made the statement in March 1981, employment has fallen by about 2 million.

I see no reason to modify my view about how the economy works. The levelling-out in activity has been in large part induced by the government relaxation of controls on consumer credit. That's exactly what happened in earlier post-war stop-go cycles. The American recovery, induced by a budget deficit, has helped us too.

I suspect that if you disentangle the figures the Chancellor's Budget is expansionary. Altogether the Government seems to me to be covert Keynesians, still pretending to be half-hearted monetarists while using Keynesian methods to check the recession.



هكذا من الأصل

ATHLETICS

Mrs Smith leaves Olympic run to chance

By David Powell

Joyce Smith, an international runner for 23 years, is to put her Olympic destiny in the hands of Britain's other leading women marathon runners. Mrs Smith, aged 46, hopes to end her competitive career by taking part in the first Olympic marathon for women, in Los Angeles this summer, but said yesterday she would leave her selection to chance.

Her intentions was to run a time in Nagoya earlier this month fast enough to prove her wothy of a place in the team but a virus, from which she has not yet recovered, restricted her to 2hr 38min 55sec, almost 10 minutes slower than her British best performance. She must now rely on the 2hr 3min 27sec which seh she achieved in finishing ninth at the world championships in Helsinki last August because she does not intend to run in The London Marathon, which is the Olympic trial on May 13.

"I will not run another marathon to prove myself for the Olympics," she said yesterday. "We have been told that the team will be picked on all performances from July 1 and on proven records, but if three gilrs go inside 2hr 34min 27sec in London they should be chosen for the good of British athlectics. "If I don't make it I will only carry on running for may own enjoyment.

The form shown recently by Priscilla Welch, Veronique Marot and Sarah Rowell in races over 10 miles and in half-marathons suggests that each of them is capable of approaching two and a half hours.

In the meantime Mrs Smith plans to leave for Lanzarote on April 12 to begin her Olympic taining. Accompanying her will be Mrs Welch and Mrs Marot, so Mrs Simth will have the chance to assess first-hand which of them will be most likely to catch the more significant flight to LA.

Nehemiah's new hurdle to cross

From Robin Gregg, Los Angeles

Renaldo Nehemiah, the 110 metres hurdles world record holder who gave up his international amateur status to sign a professional football contract with a San Francisco team, hopes to know today whether he can compete in the Los Angeles Olympic Games. On Wednesday, his lawyers asked the Chief Judge of the District of New Jersey to instruct two sports organizations to consider his request to qualify for the Games.

The judge has been asked to force the Athletic Congress of the United States and the International Amateur Federation, the organizations which govern track and field domestically and internationally, to arbitrate Nehemiah's claim that he is still an amateur in track and field.

BOXING: EUROPEAN HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

Pearce takes the pauper's path to throne

From Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent, Limoges

David Pearce, Wales's British heavyweight champion, has done everything possible to prepare himself for his challenge for the European title held by Lucien Rodriguez, of France. The Welshman spent a fortnight on the assault course at RAF Abingdon, often going over it six times a day until he was ready to take on the big Frenchman, who is almost four inches taller.

"Feel my forearms," he said yesterday. "I know I have the power to stop anyone in the world if I catch him." And who's to argue against arms that have a touch of the Llanwern works. But in all his conversations there was one overworked expression that left me with a small doubt about whether he will return home to Wales tomorrow as the new heavyweight champion of Europe.

The phrase is "I don't give a monkey's". It has been his biggest defence against life's knocks. So much so that it did not matter to the man who hopes to become the king of Europe that he spent one night like a pauper sleeping rough on two chairs by the Air France check-in at Terminal No 2 at Heathrow the night before he set off for this city.

"I would have been very upset if I did give a monkey's", he said. Indeed few British champions of any weight would have been fit enough mentally to continue on their way with a start like that. But it is just this philosophy that could be his undoing against knocks from the champion.

It is this very thinking that could affect his boxing should he be unable to catch Rodriguez with a good blow.

The fact is that Pearce, even though he tries to emulate Marciano and Frazier, does not give much of a monkey's for the heavyweights, knowing that he is really a cruiserweight. As World Boxing No 7 in that division, he sees himself going forward to box Ossie Ocasio, the champion, for the title, and has no illusions about taking on any of the three world heavyweight champions. Also Pearce will be collecting here in Limoges his biggest pay cheque so far of £19,000, which should see him comfortably off for a year or two.

If tonight he should find that, after four rounds, the hard-jabbing Rodriguez is proving too difficult to catch with a solid blow, he could easily lose motivation in the later stages.

Pearce's connections are hoping that Rodriguez will begin to feel his 32 years and his seven-month lay-off and that that, together with a three-inch floor padding, will slow the champion down. Rodriguez, however, maintains that he will still be champion tonight.

"Pearce is my toughest opponent for the championship so far" he said. "He is strong and, like all Welshmen, has a good heart. But I will be champion still.



Man of steel: a touch of Llanwern about Pearce's arms

The two men could not be more different in behaviour, Rodriguez serious and shy, Pearce outgoing and full of devil-may-care laughter. They have five opponents in common: Hennessey, Meade, Hussein, Felipe Rodriguez and Syben. Their records, too, are similar. Pearce's looking slightly better. But one has to remember that Rodriguez gave Dokes a goof fight and went the distance with Holmes.

Pearce and Rodriguez have been stopped by Meade. Pearce got his revenge over the Swansea heavyweight in 1983. The most encouraging result for Pearce is this first-round victory over Syben. Rodriguez took eight rounds to stop the Belgian. It will need a quick left hook to bring the Frenchman down and make Pearce the first British bxer since Richardson 24 years ago to win the heavyweight title abroad.

Hagler relishes brawn

Las Vagas (Reuter) – Marvin Hagler makes his ninth defence of his undisputed world middleweight championship – which should put him within five wins of Carlos Monzon's record – tonight against Juan Roldan, a two-fisted Argentine brawler with 50 wins in 54 professional fights.

"I don't think he could box even if he tried," Hagler said. "Brains beat brawn every time." I think his one choice is to try and take me out early but I'm ready for that. I've been working hard with my sparring partners. They were thinking of getting a marking pen and writing 'I am not Juan Roldan' across their foreheads so I'd take it a little easier on them."

Hagler has held the title sice lifting it fom Alan Minter in 1980.

Jones double quick to earn small change

By Peter Walker

The speed with which Colin Jones extinguished Allan Braswell on Wednesday night at the Afan Lido, Port Talbot, was such that Jones's manager, Eddie Thomas, never saw the combination left hook and right cross which stretched the slim brown figure of the New Yorker across the centre of the canvas. Thomas, who co-promoted the sell-out bill for Jones's first fight in Wales for nearly three years was still climbing back down to floor level after the bell for the second round had gone.

"I knew I had him the first time I caught him with a left-hand shot to the body," Jones said. "I looked into his eyes and saw the end. The two punches which saw him off felt just like a champagne cork going off as they landed."

Events are likely to move just as fast in the immediate future. Jones hopes for WBC title and a possible £500,000 meeting with Sugar Ray Leonard. More immediately there is the tempting offer for a match in Bermuda with Roger Stafford of the United States, the holder of the WBA version of the world welterweight title.

"Colin's in such great shape at the moment," Thomas said after the Braswell contest, "that it seems a shame to waste all the preparation after such a short work out. I would have liked the fight to go about eight rounds, but I told him to start fast as the other lad was reckoned to be at his best in the opening rounds. I hadn't reckoned on Colin taking me quite so literally."

How much the richest young boxer in Britain received for his three and a half minutes work has remained a close secret but, taking into account the television rights and the £15 for a ringside seat, a figure of £15,000 would not, I suspect, be all that far off the mark.

This is small change for a man who last year received around £250,000 gross for each of his two unsuccessful tilts at the world title with Milton McGrory, the first of which ended in a draw, the other Jones lost on a split decision.

Thomas is looking for a date sometime in late April or early May for the Stafford bout. Beyond that stand McGrory, who has publicly said he would not welcome another 12 rounds with the Gorseinon welterweight, and Leonard. Then most certainly retirement. "I'd like Colin to end at the end of this year when he's 26." Thomas, who guided Howard Winstone to the world featherweight title in 1968, said.

Glamorgan first

Glamorgan yesterday became the firts cricket county to announce a mjor sponsorship deal, which will feature advertising on both their cricket shirts and sweaters.

CRICKET

A happy birthday for Howarth and New Zealand

Colombo (Reuter) – New Zealand, animated once more by Richard Hadlee, beat Sri Lanka by an innings and 61 runs in the third and last Test match here yesterday and won the series 2-0.

Hadlee took three of the six wickets to fall on the fifth and final day to finish with five for 29, and a match total of 10 for 104, as Sri Lanka crumbled for 142 after trailing by 203 on first innings.

Boock, the left-arm spinner, snapped up the other three wickets and Sri Lanka, with Dias prevented by injury from batting, were all out shortly after lunch having resumed yesterday morning on 69 for three.

New Zealand's triumph provided a double celebration for Geoff Howarth, their captain, who celebrated his 33rd birthday by leading his country to their first overseas series victory since they beat Pakistan 1-0 in a three-test rubber at the end of 1969. This success against a Sri Lanka side still seeking their first win after 11 test matches owed much to the irresistible Hadlee, who took 23 wickets in the series.

Hadlee won the man of the series award, and his second innings success was the eighteenth time he has claimed five or more wickets in a Test match innings. His 10-wicket match total was the fourth time he has performed the feat in test matches.

Sri Lanka's fate was sealed in the morning session when they could only score 137 for seven at lunch. Hadlee soon accounted for S de Silva, the nightwatchman. Duleep Mendis, the captain, continued his run of low scores when he was bowled round his legs by Boock for 10.

Ranatunge provided the only note of defiance with exactly 50, his fourth half century in eight test matches. Ranatunge and de Alwis, the wicketkeeper, put on 31 for the seventh wicket before Hadlee had de Alwis caught by Bracewell at third slip for 10.

Soon after lunch, Ranatunge skied Boock to Wright at mid off and Hadlee sealed victory when he bowled Amerasinghe. Dias, the vice captain, was unable to bat after injuring himself while fielding

SRI LANKA: First innings 256 (R S Madugalle 89 not out, R J Hadlee 5 for 75, E J Chatfield 5 for 63).

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 459 (J F Reid 180, J V Coney 92).

SRI LANKA: Second innings

S Wettimuny c Coney b Hadlee	2
S M S Kaluperuma c Coney b Hadlee	18
R S Madugalle c Wright b Bracewell	38
A Ranatunga c Wright b Boock	50
D S de Silva c Smith b Hadlee	1
L R D Mendis b Boock	10
J R Ratnayake b Boock	2
R G de Alwis c Bracewell b Hadlee	10
A M J G Amerasinghe b Hadlee	5
V B John not out	0
R L Dias absent injured	0
Extras (lb 1, nb 5)	6
Total	142

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–16, 2–63, 3–63, 4–79, 5–101, 6–105, 7–136, 8–138, 9–142.

BOWLING: Hadlee 16–7–29–5, Chatfield 9–2–27–0, M D Crowe 5–2–13–0, Bracewell 11–2–13–0, Boock 16–2–32–3.

Test teams for festival

Melbourne (Reuter) - The world's seven Test-playing countries have been invited to compete in a one-day festival here next year, as part of the State of Victoria's 150th anniversary celebrations.

The World Cup holders, India, as well as England, New Zealand, West Indies, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Australia have all accepted invitations to attend the festival, the Victorian Cricket Association (VCA) president, Ray Steele, said on Wednesday. The budget had been estimated at £1,850,000. He said the VCA were still working to complete the schedule. The VCA are planning to stage the competition under lights in mid-February.

"We've been negotiating for the last two years and it has taken a bit of organizing" Mr Steele said.

BADMINTON

Jolly passed over again

Kevin Jolly has been left out of England's team for the Thomas Cup, the world team championships, to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from May 7-19.

It is yet another disappointment for the 24-year-old Essex player, following his omission from the England squad for next month's European championships

Jolly, who has had several brushes with authority in the past, was one of only three home players to reach the last 16 in the All-England championships at Wembley last week. He said at the time: "I always seem to be banging my head against a brick wall, It's only the thought of making the Thomas Cup team that keeps me going, otherwise I feel like packing it in and looking for a job."

Ciro Ciniglio, The England team manager, announcing the eight-strong Thomas Cup team, and also the women's squad for the Uber Cup matches, admitted: "It has been one of the most difficult selections to make in my seven years in the job."

Another surprise is the omission of Nigel Tier and Duncan Bridge, an established doubles partnership.

The team for the Uber Cup – to be played alongside the Thomas Cup for the first time – includes Nora Perry, who has begun training again after having a baby three months ago.

MEN: S Baddeley, N Yates, M Dew, Tredgett, S Butler, A Goode, D Talor, C Dobson.

WOMEN: N Perry, J Webster, G Gilks, K Beckman, H Troke, S Podger, G Gowers, G Clark.

MOTOR RACING

Fuel sparks Porsche's move to quit Le Mans

By John Blunsden

A Le Mans 24 hors race without the works Porsche team may seem like a grand prix without the world champion, but this isthe price the Automobile Club de L'Ouest, the race organizers, must pay this year because of the decision by the international F motor sports federation (FISA) earlier this month to alter the endurance racing rules at short notice.

Instead of intoducing more stringent fuel consumption regulations this year, FISA are allowing the 1983 consumption levels to be maintained for a further year, and have indicated that in 1985 the fuel efficiency-based regulations will be abandoned altogether. Instead, engine power will be contained by relating engine capacity to a scale of minimum weights.

Having spent a lot of time, money and expertise in recent months on developing sophisticated engine management systems which would cater for the anticipated 1984 rules, Porsche are furions that this effort has been wasted, and that what they seek as the most meaningful of all motor racing formulae – one which echoes the requirements of production cars in matching performance with the efficient use of fuel – is being ruined.

The works Porsche team, is sponsored by Rothmans, have contractual obligations and will be seen at other endurance races this year. But their drivers, who include Derek Bell and Jacky Ickx, have been told that their services will not be required on Le Mans weekend, June 16-17. Clearly, by withdrawing from the year's most important endurance race, the German company is seeking the maximum publicity for their protest, which they are making in what they see as the best interests of the sport.

The controversial decision by the FISA forms part of a package of changes which are being made in an effort to attract a wider variety of cars into this class of racing.

Only if there is a fundamental rethink on the part of the sport's governing body is there likley to be any change of mind by the Porsche factory team; and this seems most unlikely.

TODAYS FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Second Division
Shrewsbury Town v Blackburn Rovers

Third Division
Plymouth Argyle v Rotherham United
Preston North End v Newport County

Fourth Division
Halifax Town v Swindon Town
Tranmere Rovers v Northampton Town
Wrexham v Stockport County

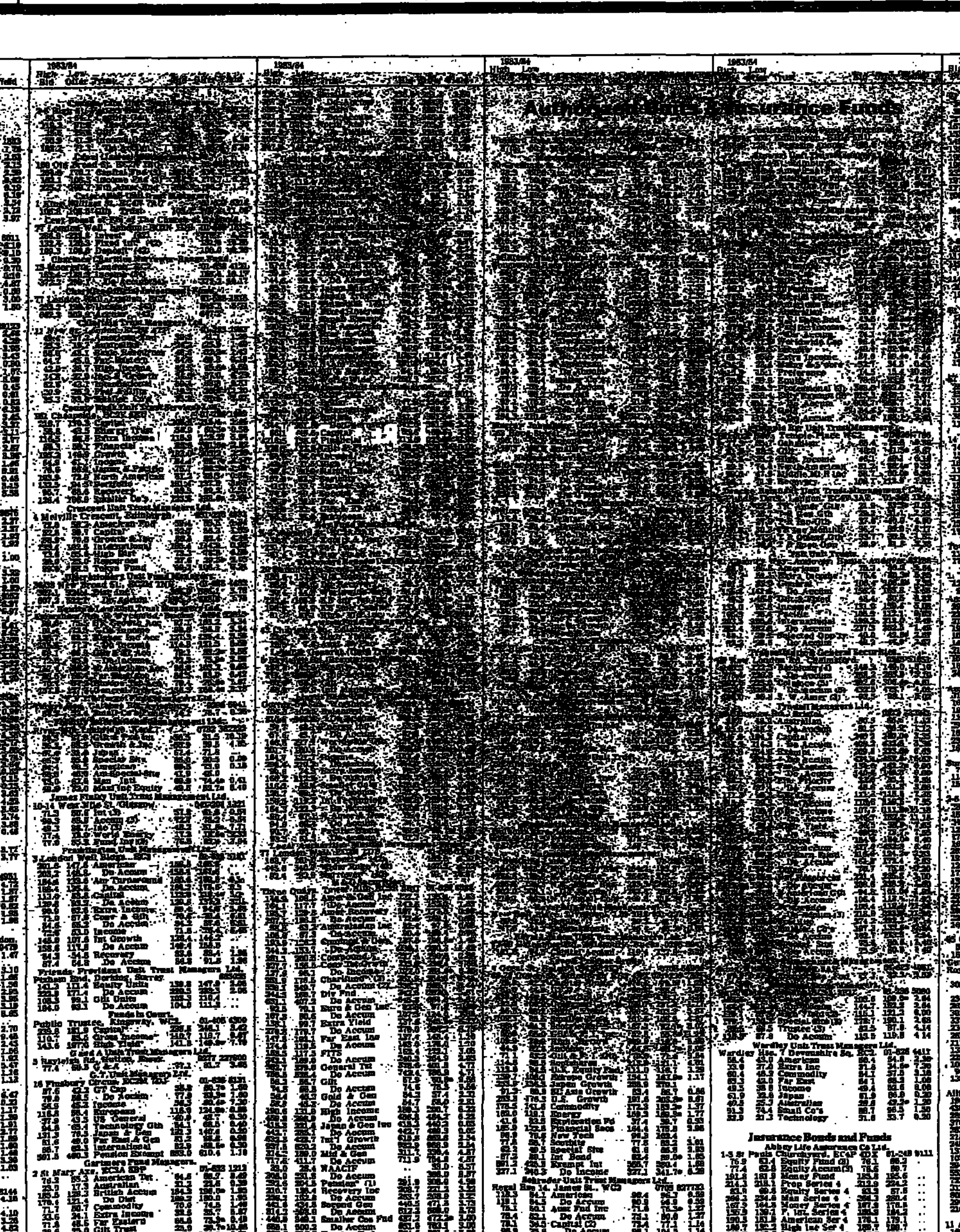
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: S Liverpool v Marine

OTHER SPORT

RACKETS: Public Schools Doubles (at Queen's Club, West Kensington, 9.30am).
SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Irish Masters (at Goff's Sales Ring, co Kildare, 2pm and 7.15pm).

Authorized Unit Trusts



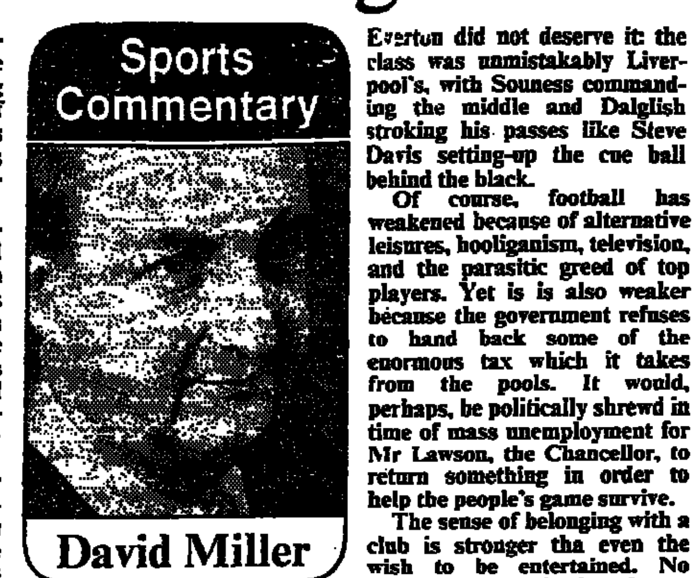


Authorized Life Assurance Funds

Insurance Bonds and Funds

FOOTBALL: MILK CUP THAT MADE THOUSANDS FEEL GOOD

The game that generated a spirit that one had almost forgotten



David Miller

Wolves, Charlton, Derby – now Middlesbrough ... the reaper seems to be hovering ominously at the door of some of our most glorious yesterdays, as an economic wind creeps through to the bones of our nation sport.

Mullen and Hancocks, Bartram and Duffy, Doherty and Stamps, the estimable Mannion whose body swerve was as graceful as a daffodil swaying in the wind: is it inevitable that the historic clubs of famous players and of a treasured past will decay and die like many of our provincial theatres, killed by television?

These are difficult times for football, but occasionally something happens which makes you realize once more that the game is still there in the souls of tens of thousands of people; that supporting the local club can engage a deeper sense of belonging and affection than any man ever had joining a club in Pall Mall. It happened on Wednesday night.

Walking into Maine Road, Manchester, for the Milk Cup Final replay, there was an awareness of Everton and of their supporters, of an identity which was stronger even than that of confident, expectant multi-champions Liverpool. And they yelled loud enough.

In a strange but unmistakable way, because Everton's players are nowhere near as successful and celebrated as Liverpool's, while the Anfield followers were cheering specifically for their team, those from Goodison were cheering for a club. The loyalty to that club carried a passion which spread infectiously through the Maine Road ground to the point where there could be no doubt who was showing the greater pride on the night.

It might seem trivial to dwell on this experience, common enough over the years, but I think we too easily lose sight of how valuable our clubs have been within the working community for more than a century, and how much poorer we would be without them. Television has not only cheapened football itself, by concentrating on the skills of a handful of better teams and making this available to everybody, thereby ensuring the rest seem inferior, but has weaned people away from their identity and roots. Can anyone find identity watching the toy silver image of Parky or Harty, or even looking at football through TV's window?

I felt good on Wednesday night after listening to Everton's followers the way I feel good after listening to the Welsh at Cardiff Arms Park, or to the Brazilian supporters who can make a single match last a whole day beforehanmd and a whole night afterwards; or to Manchester United's against Barcelona last week.

There was gererosity, optimism, humour and loyalty, and with no ill-will to Joe Fagan's team it made you pray for a lucky blue streak.

Howard Kendall, who has done so well to revive Goodison fortunes, and may yet take them to a second Cup Final with the help of Andy Gray against Southampton, had wisely said before the first game at Wembley that you do not win a Cup because you are due it, only because you deserve it. On Wednesday, by the finish, Everton did not deserve it: the class was unmistakably Liverpool's, with Souness commanding the middle and Dalglish stroking his passes like Steve Davis setting-up the cue ball behind the black.

Of course, football has weakened because of alternative leisures, hooliganism, television, and the parasitic greed of top players. Yet is is also weaker because the government refuses to hand back some of the enormous tax which it takes from the pools. It would, perhaps, be politically shrewd in time of mass unemployment for Mr Lawson, the Chancellor, to return something in order to help the people's game survive.

The sense of belonging with a club is stronger tha even the wish to be entertained. No matter how much the players are being paid, the supporter considers that he and the imcompetent winger are equivalent partners in the same organization, which is why the man in the blue scarf behind me on Wednesday night kept yelling at Harper: "Get it over, yer daft b– –". Simultaneously, he would have assured any outsider that Harper was as good as anybody Liverpool had on the field and was, indeed, one of his dearest friends.

There was a lack of rancour on the terraces which was a reminder of former times. Neal was having a bit of a roughhouse on the pitch with Heath, which was causing friendly disagreement behind me. "Of course, that Neal, he's getting old and he can't take it," Blue Scarf said patronisingly. "Not at all," rejoined Red Scarf, "young Heath's got as fine a pair of elbows as this referee'll ever see."

The match was a bond, not a friction. It also revealed that basic attitude to football which 20 years of Liverpool's continental close passing have not eliminated. "Hey, git on, up the field, yer won't score goals back there," Red Scarf shouted a dozen times as Hansen or Lorenson square-passed.

Kevin Sheedy of Everton has been ruled out for the rest of the season.

Sheedy suffered an ankle injury in Sunday's Milk Cup final

Sponsorship goes on

Sponsorship of the Milk Cup tournament is guaranteed until the end of 1986 and reports that a £2m deal is about to collapse can be discounted. Graham Kelly, the Football League secretary, said yesterday.

Charlton in new move to manager

By John Dougray

The wheel turned full circle at Ayresome Park yesterday when Middlesbrough confirmed that Jack Charlton, their former manager who led the club to promotion to the first division in 1974 and then left them in 1977 to join Sheffield Wednesday, returns today as manager for an indefinite period.

Only 24 hours after dismissing Malcolm Allison, Mr Mike McCullagh, confirmed that Charlton had agreed to take over the reigns again. "Jack and I are good friends. I told him that we were in trouble and that we needed him to sort things out. His immediate reaction was that he had a million things to do, but then he said he would be delighted to come back". Mr McCullagh said last night. "He has a great affection for this club and its supporters. He has a lot of happy memories of Middlesbrough."

In Charlton's first season at Ayresome Park, 1973-74, Middlesbrough won the second division championship by the record margin of 15 points. After he left, Charlton often told friends that he regretted going when he did and not seeing the job through because there was the basis of a fine team.

Charlton left Sheffield Wednesday at the end of last season. Since then, he has devoted himself mainly to making a television series on hunting and fishing. The programmes, predictably, have met with an angry reaction from the anti-bloodsport lobby.

However, Big Jack can be sure of a warm welcome from the Middlesbrough directors today, even although the chairman will be in London for urgent talks with bankers to whom he is presenting a financial package to help rescue the club from its financial position.

Mr McCullagh told *The Times* last night: "Jack Charlton is the one man who has come away from this club with a lot of success. His record speaks for itself. He is a man people listen to and respect.

Referring to the decision to sack Allison, Mr McCullagh said: "What Malcolm was saying was crazy. He had seen practically every invoice that came into the club. He knew just how bad the situation was. And yet he said he would not agree to players being sold. I told him, 'Malcolm, you can make a stand on this, it is your own career.' He said, 'If I walk away, I walk over the edge and I take a lot of people with me'. I am very sad that he took such a silly, irreconcilable attitude.

The chairman is confident that Middlesbrough can be saved. But he is aware that if the present Middlesbrough board do not convince their creditors that they can turn the club's fortunes round, then another group of businessmen on Teesside might be prepared to take it over. Today's proposals to the club's bankers, are believed to include selling the player's hostel and the training ground.


Charlton: welcome assured

Yeovil may be safe from slippery slope

By Paul Newman

The reluctance of Isthmian League clubs to join the Alliance Premier League looks certain to save one Alliance club from relegation for the second season in *succession*.

One promotion place is available at the end of the season to each of the Alliance's three "feeders", the Isthmian League, Southern League and Northern Premier League. It goes to the highest placed club wishing to be promoted in each league, provided they finish in the top three and have adequate facilities.

The Southern League and Northern Premier League championships have both developed into two-horse races with all four contenders – Dartford and Fisher Athletics in the Southern, Barrow and Matlock Town in the Northern Premier – keen to join the Alliance. In the Isthmian League, however, the clubs likely to fill the top three positions – Harrow Borough, Slough Town and Worthing – have all confirmed they do not want promotion yet.

Yeovil Town finshed third from bottom of the Alliance last season but were saved from relegation when the top three Isthmian clubs all declined promotion. The same could happen this year, for Yeovil have taken only four points from their last 11 games and are now in relegation trouble. Trowbridge Town look certain to go down, while Bangor City will have to take full advantage of their games in hand to avoid relegation.

Barrow, who were founder members of the Alliance League, were relegated last year and are keen to rejoin. They have led the Northern Premier League since October, but Matlock have recently mounted a strong challenge for the championship and their remaining fixtures appear easier than Barrow's. Having spent £30,000 on ground improvements in the last year, Matlock believe their facilities are up to Alliance standards.

The Southern League title looks increasingly likely to go to Dartford, who had one season in the Alliance two years ago and are anxious to have another chance.

● Wales beat England 2–1 in the semi-professional international at Newtown on Tuesday. The match was watched by more than 1,500 people.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bottom positions:

	P	HW	AW	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boston U	35	7	2	11	15	52	68	31
Yeovil	33	7	3	5	18	39	59	28
Kettering	32	8	2	5	17	43	55	27
Gateshead	32	5	2	11	14	43	57	27
Dagenham	32	7	2	7	16	40	57	27
Weymouth	33	1	6	6	20	32	57	26
Bangor C	30	7	1	3	19	38	55	20
Trowbridge	35	3	2	6	24	28	69	18

Isthmian League
Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Harrow Borough	35	21	10	4	61	36	73
Slough Town	36	18	8	10	64	45	62
Worthing	33	17	10	6	76	52	61
Hayes	35	15	11	9	48	34	56
Dulwich Hamlet	38	15	11	12	56	64	56

Southern League
Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dartford	31	20	5	6	57	26	65
Fisher Athletic	28	18	4	6	60	34	58
King's Lynn	32	16	5	11	38	37	53
Chelmsford City	27	15	6	6	48	31	51

Northern Premier League
Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barrow	33	22	9	2	72	30	75
Matlock Town	33	21	6	6	69	38	69
Burton Albion	33	16	10	7	54	32	58
Macclesfield Town	34	17	7	10	58	43	58
South Liverpool	32	16	8	8	42	37	56
Marine	31	16	6	7	53	42	54

Watson cap could prove costly

Bobby Robson has caused Norwich a cash problem by adding their centre-half, Dave Watson, to his England squad for next week's British Championship game against *Northern Ireland* at Wembley. The 22-year-old steps up to the full squad because Mark Wright, of Southampton, is injured.

Watson was Ken Brown's first signing at Carrow Road just over two years ago, for £50,000 from Liverpool. Written into the deal was a £100,000 bonus for Liverpool if the youngster played for England.

Ian Stewart, the Queen's Park Rangers winger, could be fit to fulfil a boyhood dream by playing for Northern Ireland against England. He is hoping to prove his recovery by playing for QPR against West Ham on Saturday.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT'S RESULTS

MILK CUP: Final replay: Everton 0, Liverpool 1
SECOND DIVISION: Newcastle 1, Leeds 0.
UEFA UNDER-21 COMPETITION: Quarter-final, second leg: France 0, England 1 (agg 1-7)
SCOTTISH CUP: Fifth round replay: Dundee United 0, Aberdeen 1
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Motherwell 2, Dundee 4
INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: France 1, Austria 0; West Germany 2, Soviet Union 1.
UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL: West Germany 1, Soviet Union 1.
OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT: Italy 1, Romania 2.
IRISH LEAGUE: Glenavon 1 Bangor 1.
BELGIAN CUP: Semi-finals, second leg: Lierse 0, Ghent 1 (agg 1-4); Standard Liege 3, Beveren 1 (agg 5-2).
PORTUGUESE CUP: Semi-finals: Sporting Lisbon 1, Porto 1 (aet); Guimaraes 0, Rio Ave 0 (aet).
DUTCH CUP: Semi-finals: Fortuna Sittard 2, FC Groningen 0; Haarlem 1, Feyenoord 1.
YUGOSLAV LEAGUE: Rijeka 1 Olimpija 0; Partizan 2, Vojvodina 0; Pristina 4, Sarajevo 0; Buducnost 0, Celik 1; Zeljeznicar 2, Osijek 0; Sloboda 1, Vardar 0; Hajduk Split 1, Red Star 1; Radnicki Nis 0, Velez 0.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Yeovil 2, Barnet 4.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Fareham Town 3, Corby 2; Folkestone v Fisher, postponed. Midland division: Milton Keynes 1, Merthyr Tydfil 2; VS Rugby 1, Bridgnorth 1.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 2, Sunderland 0; Blackburn 1, Leeds 1.
SECOND DIVISION: Bradford City 2, Manchester City 1; Huddersfield 2, Notts County 1.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Oxford United 2, Fulham 1.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Feltham v Hertford, postponed.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Army 0, Royal Navy 2; FA XI v AFA, postponed.
GEOFFREY MILES MEMORIAL TROPHY: Final: Norfolk 0, Hertfordshire 3.
OTHER MATCH: Cambridge University 3, Cambridge United 3.

SOCCER SIXES: Group one: Southampton 1, West Bromwich 0; Birmingham 1, Arsenal 5. Group two: Watford 0, Aston Villa 1; Ipswich 2, Nottingham Forest 4. Semi-Finals: Arsenal 7, Nottingham Forest 2; Ipswich 2, Southampton 1. Final; Arsenal 1, Ipswich 0.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Sentence bites the biter back

By Keith Macklin

It is rare for the chairman of the disciplinary committee to issue a statement explaining a sentence, but yesterday Jack Grindrod felt the need to emphasize the seriousness with which the Rugby League views biting.

Des Drummond, the Leigh and Great Britain winger, was suspended for five games, two for retaliation and three for biting an opponent in Leigh's game against Salford on March 4. Mr Grindrod commented: "Rugby League is acknowledged to be a tough game, but there is no place in it for biting. The three-match suspension emphasizes the severity of the offence and should act as a warning to other players." Leigh are appealing against the sentence.

Fulham, in desperate relagation trouble, have to play their next two matches without Tony Gourley, their captain who was suspended for stamping during the game against Wigan. The committee was in tough mood yesterday and four-match suspensions were handed out to Alan Hodkinson, the Barrow captain, David Noble of Doncaster, Neil Goodwin of Bramley and Alan Bishop of Huyton. George Standidge of Rochdale was suspended for six games; Bob Mordell, the Kent Invicta player-manager, for three.

● Wigan finished with only 11 men as they were trounced 38-10 at Castleford in the first division on Wednesday evening. Gary Stephens was sent off for punching, then Wigan lost Courtney (suspected broken neck), Juliff (dislocated shoulder) and Case (ankle injury).

Postponed game upsets Fulham

Featherstone Rovers have called off their relegation showdown against Fulham tonight, but the opposition are still threatening to turn up for the match. Fulham need to win, to have a chance of finishing above Featherstone and stay in the first division.

The Fulham player coach, Reg Bowden, said: "Featherstone contacted me on Tuesday, telling me the match was off because it is no longer being televised. But that is a load of rubbish. They have injury problems and do not want to play with a weakened side."

Featherstone are due to visit Wigan on Sunday, and Bowden said: "They are worried in case we win, but my players have taken the day off work; I have booked a coach and a hotel for a lunchtime training session. Their reasons for postponing the game aren't justified and I went to Whitehaven recently with three amateurs in our injury-hit lineup. We will turn up tomorrow and claim the points."

GOLF

Mahaffey defeats elements

From Mitchell Platts
Ponte Vedra, Florida

John Mahaffey played the finest golf of his life to take the early lead in the Tournament Players Championship with a three-under-par first round of 69 on the Players Course at Sawgrass here yesterday.

Winds gusting up to 45 mph provided the course with extra protection. At 132 yards, the seventeeth is the shortest hole but it is nevertheless one where the championship could be won or lost. The island green is surrounded by water, and club selection is of paramount importance. It is then that the golfer can be betrayed by a swirling wind.

Mahafey was one of the victims. "My ball was wet from the moment I struck it", he said. In fact he missed the green, with a "knocked-down" six iron way to the right, and he finished with a five. Since he had begun from the tenth that disaster, erasing the two birdies that he had earlier collected, took him to the turn in level par.

That score, however, was a sufficient foundation on which to build and he made three birdies in his next six holes to forge ahead.

RUGBY UNION

RFU members seeking some sense amidst the confusion

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

This afternoon, 54 men of varying shades of political opinion, social standing and general interests, united by their love of and service to Rugby Union football, will vote at the London Hilton Hotel whether an England team will tour South Africa in May.

In view of the fact that 12 years ago (and only two years after an unprecedented series of demonstrations by anti-apartheid groups had wrecked the 1969-70 Springbok tour to Britain and Ireland) the Rugby Football Union's full committee agreed to send a touring team to South Africa, and that in 1974 and 1980 they supported the British Lions tours there, it seems inconceivable that in 1984 they will not vote for the tour to go ahead.

In the last 12 years, even dedicated opponents of contact with South Africa acknowledge the changes that have taken place there. Some members of the RFU committee have had the opportunity to see for themselves: John Smith, president of the RFU last season, supports contact at lower levels of the game, but not to the extent of sending an international team. Danie Serfontein, the Northumberland representative who spent the first 19 years of his life in the Orange Free State and makes regular visits to South Africa to see his family, believes that tremendous changes have been made – though Mr Serfontein is unwilling to expand his views, to avoid influencing his committee colleagues.

They have not been short of advice in recent weeks, some of which may be counter-productive, in that it may strengthen the belief that the RFU should be left to run their own affairs. The committee men who will vote this afternoon do so according to their own consciences: they are representatives, not delegates, though in most cases they will have consulted their constituent bodies.

They cannot, however, have remained completely impervious to the deluge of articles and televised programmes on South Africa which have appeared in recent weeks. For some of them who, like me, have never visited South Africa, they will have created confusion, if not doubt. The most moderate opinions advise the RFU to consider the effects of an affirmative vote on other sports, and on England's standing in world sport.

The latest of those opinions arrived at Twickenham yesterday, when the Commonwealth Games Council of England, at the eleventh hour, sent a letter expressing concern about the tour, thus complying with the Commonwealth countries' code of conduct, agreed in Brisbane two years ago.

Sir Arthur Gold, the council chairman, said: "The letter is non-controversial ... It is based on the wording of the code of conduct and has the approval of all our council members. We hope this will safeguard possible repercussions on competitors. We still believe we cannot take responsibility for those sports over which we have no authority.

It is concern for other sporting organisations which will, I believe, weigh heavily with the committee.

It is, unwise to dismiss them all as reactionaries, living in a dreamland where rugby is king. Most of them are intelligent, perceptive men

Though their primary responsibility is towards the administration of rugby and the game's players – some of whom have already indicated their support for the tour in a poll of the England squad – they realise their actions cannot be divorced from the politics of South Africa and the greater theatre of sport.

The Government, via the Minister for Sport, Neil Macfarlane, has already advised against the tour; yesterday the Anti-Apartheid Movement asked Mrs Thatcher to make a personal appeal to the RFU to urge them to stop the tour, though the Prime Minister's views on this subject are well known.

England, as Ireland did in 1981 and as France have said they will do in two years' time, seem likely to march in step with the wish expressed by Danie Craven, president of the South African Rugby Board: "If a naughty child is mending his ways ... do we assist, encourage and give recognition to him in his efforts to improve himself?"

Scots to play in Romania

Jim Aitken, who emerged from retirement to captain Scotland to a grand slam this season, will extend his international career by leading his country on their first visit to Romania from May 11-21. (David Hands writes). In a party of 25 he will be without three of the forwards who shared Scotland's triumphs, Deans, the Hawick hooker, Milne, the Heriot's FP prop, and Paxton, the Selkirk No 8.

Deans, after three summers away from home, is opting for a family holiday, Milne's club are on tour themselves and Paxton faces qualifying computer examinations. Scotland will, however, enjoy the assistance of Renwick, the centre from Hawick who, if he plays in the international against Romania, will become his country's most capped player with 52. He and Irvine (Heriot's FP) currently share the record.

There are games against Romanian selections in Bucharest and Constanza, with the international in Bucharest due on May 20 – will give an indication of the worth of the young Edinburgh backs, Steven and Wyllie, and two promising flankers from the Borders, Jeffrey and McGaughey.

SCOTLAND PARTY: Fullbacks: P Dods (Gala), P Steven (Heriot's FP). Wings: J Pollock (Gosforth), R Baird (Kelso). Centres: K Robertson (Melrose), D Johnston (Watsonians), E Kennedy (Watsonians), J Renwick (Hawick). Stand-off halves: J Rutherford (Selkirk), D Wyllie (Stewart's Melville FP). Scrum halves: R Laidlaw (Jed-Forest), G Hunter (Selkirk). Props: J Aitken (Gala, captain), N Rowan (Boroughmuir), G Mackenzie (Highland). Hookers: R Cunningham (Bath), G Callander (Kelso). Locks: A Tomes (Hawick), A Campbell (Hawick), T Smith (Gala). Backrow: J Calder (Stewart's Melville FP), D Leslie (Gala), J Beattie (Glasgow Academicals), J Jeffrey (Kelso), S McGaughey (Hawick).


Aitken: extending career

S Africans play for President

By Gerald Davies

If comment overheard in the local pub and elsewhere in the town is anything to go by, Welsh rugby followers are looking forward optimistically to next season despite only a 50 per cent success rate in the five-nations championship.

But before the curtain is drawn on the season they will get one more opportunity a week tomorrow when, in a less intensely competitive atmosphere, the Welsh team will play the Welsh President's team in Cardiff. Yesterday the selctors announced a team unchanged from the one who played at Twickenham two weeks ago.

The occasion next week is to celebrate the completion of the £9m national ground development scheme at which the three other home countries must look on wiht envy. Plans for the celebration have not been without hiccup or two. Some local authorities and the Commonwealth Games Council in Wales have complained at the inclusion of three South Africans among the president's players, among whom is the young Coloured Western Province centre, Wilfred Cupido, thus making it a mixed representation from South Africa.

This has not deterred West Glamorgan County Council from refusing permission to allow the first match on Tuesday between Crawshay's RFC XV and the President's XV to be played on St Helens, a council-owned property. The match has been transferred to Stradey Park, Llanelli.

It would appear that the council are not entirely consistent in their policy in that last year they allowed Barbarians to play against Swansea even though the visitors included the Eastern Province centre, Danie Greber.

WALES: H Davies (Bridgend); M H Titley (Bridgend), R A Ackerman (London Welsh), B Bowen (South Wales Police), A M Hadley (Cardiff); M Dacey (Swansea), T D Holmes, (Cardiff); I Stephens (Bridgend), M J Watkins (Newport), I H Eidman (Cardiff), R D Moriarty (Swansea), S J Perkins (Pontypool), R L Norster (Cardiff), D F Pickering (Llanelli), E T Butler (Pontypool). Replacements: G Evans (Maesteg), H e Rees (Neath), M Douglas (London Welsh), J Whitefoot (Cardiff), W James (Aberavon), A N Other

Rain on the just and on the unjust

By Peter Marson

Tandem Computers, who sponsor the national schools seven-a-side tournament, might give serious thought to pulling out of the data processing business and chanelling their efforts towards manufacturing waterwings, lifeboats, even plastic macs. Any one of those commodities would have quickly sold out and shown a handsome return in the environs of Roehampton yesterday, when, to a noisy bombardment and a spectacular visual display, the heavens opened and, so it seemed, dropped the lot on an army of innocent schoolboys.

Not totally innocent: one boy was sent off, a rare occurence in this tournament.

The sun smiled briefly later as if to apologize for what had gone before. By that time we had seen enough of Ampleforth, who are held in high regard here, to place them among the favourites for the final round of the Festival competition. Truro, Dulwich, Gresham's and Bedford had no answer to a balanced side skilfully led by Carvill, their scrum half and captain.

The semi-final round has intriguing possibilities and here it is probable that Rossall will vie with Sherborne and Durham with Ampleforth, the holders.

FESTIVAL COMPETITION: Fifth round: Group A: King's Taunton 15, Stowe 6, Dover 12, Skinner's 4. Winner: King's Taunton. Group B: Radley 14, Kingwood 8; Churcher's 20, Haydon 4. Winners: Rossall. Group C: St Joseph's Ipswich 8, Barnard Castle 6; Ryde 14, Bearwood 14. Winners, St Joseph's. Group D: Trent 18, Worth 0; Blundell's 32, King's Bruton 0. Winners: Trent. Group E: Dame Alice Owens 24, Wycliffe 0; Eastbourne 28, Cavendish 4. Winners: Sherborne. Group F: Worcester 0, Loughborough 0; Downside 14, King's Canterbury 0. Winners: Downside. Group G: Wellington WO, St Bart's (scratched); Malvern 16, Douai 6. Winners: Lord Williams. Group H: Dean Close WO, Wandsworth (scratched); Haberdashers' Aske's 18, Bedford Modern 4. Winners: Haberdashers' Aske's. Group I: Queen's Taunton 10, Mill Hill 8; Brighton 32, St Dunstan's 0. Winners: Queen's Taunton. Group J: Berkhamsted WO, Kelly (scratched); Shebbear 24, Hurstpierpoint 0. Winners: Berkhamsted.
JUNIOR SCHOOLS: Quarter-finals: Dulwich 16, Grey Court 12; Dwr-y-Felin 8, Oakham 0; Colfes 24, London Oratory 0; Cwmtawe 10, St Joseph's Acamemy Blackheath 6. Semi-finals: Dulwich 8, Dwr-y-Felin 0; Colfes 22, Cwmtawe 0.

Globe-trotting in search of play

Schools Rugby by Michael Stevenson

Many schools, in addition to competing in the profusion of seven-a-side tournaments, are getting more ambitious in their tours. After a considerable number of half-term trips to Europe, there has been an increase in two-way traffic across the Atlantic. **Monmouth School** have set off this week for America, travelling to Boston and New York where they will be playing matches against West Point Military Academy and Marine Academy.

Reigate Grammar School, after a very good season (played 19, won 13, drawn three, lost three), are off next week to British Columbia where they will play seven matches, two on Vancouver Island and the remainder on the mainland. Also bound for Vancouver is the undefeated **Sedbergh** side while **St Anselm's College, Birkenhead**, are celebrating their golden jubilee, by touring California.

King William's College, Isle of Man, having travelled in the opposite direction, are playing five matches in Hongkong before returning next week. One of these matches is against **Giggleswick**, who are also touring the area and playing matches in Singapore and Hongkong.

Meanwhile, the United Kingdom is experiencing an invasion of Canadian school parties. **Prince of Wales School, Vancouver**, flew back to Canada last Sunday after a five-match tour of Scotland and the north of England, during which they only managed one victory.

Aier a narrow deafeat at the hands of **Dundee High School**, they travelled to Leeds, where **John Smeaton High School** beat them 14-7, and then to Carlisle, losing 14-6 to the highly successful **Austin Friars** side, who had just trounced **Bournville School** (57-3).

HOCKEY: PERFORMANCES BODE WELL FOR ENGLAND

Weekend will decide team for W Germany

By Joyce Whitehead

The Great Britain women's team to take part in the West German anniversary tournament at the end of April will be selected from 24 players who will gather for a training weekend at Lilleshall on Saturday.

SQUAD: K Brown, L Carr, J Cook, V Dixon, M Eckersall, K Gordon, B Hambly, R Hine, V Robinson, J Swinnerton, R Sykes (all England); J Dobie, L Forsyth, S Henderson, N Kerr, M McLeod, A Ramsey, J Stewart (Scotland); V McBride, J Redpath (Ulster), W Banks, M Pugh, M Medlow, L Sharpe (Wales)

The South clubs championship will be contested on Sunday, at the Pressed Steel Fisher ground in Oxford, starting at 11.00, with 16 clubs playing in four sections, to be followed by knockout stages, culminating in the final at 4.15.

The England team to take part in the European Cup in Lille, France, from May 3 to 13 is as follows, and not as was incorrectly listed in yesterday's editions:

M Burrows, V Dixon, L Carr, R Sykes, K Brown, B Hambly, M Allen, V Robinson, K Gordon, S Lister, M Eckersall (captain), J Cook, H Woodward, R Hine, C Rule, J Bannister.

Hearns v Duran

New York (AFP) – The World Boxing Council light middleweight champion, Thomas Hearns, of the United States, will meet his World Boxing Association counterpart, Roberto Duran, of Panama, in Nassau, Bahamas, on June 15.

UAU more than meet university challenge

By Sydney Friskin

UAU 3
Oxford 0

Universities Athletic Union, as expected, regained the British Universities Sports Federation title at Cambridge yesterday after defeating Oxford, last year's winners, 3-0 in the final. They had beaten Oxford by the same score in the group match and the pattern of play was similar.

Taking into account the occasion when UAU shared the title with Oxford in 1974, this was their ninth success. This time they were clearly the best side with some promising players, and it would have been useful if the England selectors had been present.

As they had done in the earlier match, UAU led 1-0 by half-time and dominated the second half with their quickness of thought and action. This is not to say that Oxford played badly. They did their best without three of their regular players – Quirk, Hurn and Chessher – and with only 11 players available these beleagured troops could not make a substitution.

Except for a dash through the middle by Keohane who was soon checked by French, Oxford had no chance to score in the first half. Neither did AUA until the twenty-seventh minute, when Bilsland seized a chance created by Allcock for the first goal. Early in the second half, Clift deflected a free hit by Boxell onto a post, but made amends when he converted the UAU's sixth short corner in the thirtyith minute of this half, stopping the hit from the line himself. Two minutes later Clift's free hit from the right was swept into goal by Bilsland for his second goal.

Oxford had to wait until two minutes before the end for their first short corner, from which Ashcroft saved off Robinson, Monks hittinl wide on the rebound.

UAU: C Ashcroft; M French, N Clarke, F McLean, S Bowling, R Clift, D Knott, P Boxell, R Skinner, M Allcock (capt), R Bilsland.
OXFORD: R Niblett; P Binks, P Rudden, A Suttnell, R McIntyre, J Kell, T Monks (capt), M Robinson, G Hayward, P Keohane, D Sanders.
Umpires: G Nash (Northern Counties) and M Martin (Southern Counties).
RESULTS: For seventh place: Northern Ireland 2, Wales 1; Fifth: London 3, Trinity College Dublin 2; Third: Cambridge 2, Scotland 0. Final: UAU 3, Oxford 0.

● Mark French will lead the British team for the Universities International Tournament in West Berlin from April 9 to 13.

BRITAIN (from): C Ashcroft (UAU), P Barr (Cambridge), M French (UAU, capt), D Reynolds (London), F Green (Northern Ireland), S Bowling (UAU), P Adams (Scotland), P Boxell (UAU), J Potter (UAU), T Monks (Oxford), M Robinson (Oxford), I Lang (Scotland), S Chee (London), D Stanfield (Scotland), J Harper (Cambridge), R Skinner (UAU).

TENNIS

Miss Brasher recaptures competitiveness

Kate Brasher, the No 1 seed, duly won the women's tournament at Queen's, sponsored by the S.W. Farmer Group, when she defeated Sally Reeves, of Kent, 4-6, 6-1, 7-5, in the final (Lewine Mair writes).

In a two and a half hour match, played indoors because of rain, Miss Brasher varied her game well to recover from losing the first set.

The third set, like the first, was played almost wholly from the baseline. Miss Reeves went to 2-0, but Miss Brasher fought well to arrive at 3-2, and thereafter always had the edge.

● Austen Brice, who moved school from Cheshire to Sussex to be nearer Clay Iles, his coach, is the No 1 boys seed in the finals of the British under-16 indoor invitation series, sponsored by Saab, at Bramhall this weekend.

Anne Simpkin, aged 14, is seeded first among the girls at under 16 level, while in the under-14 event Colin Beecher and Nicola Entract of Dorset are seeded first.

● (AP) – Hana Mandlikova is favoured to win her fifth tournament of the year, following her easy victory in the opening round of the Virginia Slims competition here on Wednesday night, 6–2, 6–3 over Lisa Bonder.

● Peking (AP) – China will play Japan in the Eastern zone semi-final of the Davis Cup from May 4 to 6 in the southern Chinese city of Kunming.

FOR THE RECORD



SWIMMING

INDIANAPOLIS: United States Winter Championships: Men: 100m freestyle: 1, R Gaines, 50.23sec; 2, T Jager, 50.48; 3, W Barrett, 50.65. 200m backstroke: 1, J Vassalo, 2:01.48; 2, S Goss, 2:02.60; 3, P Rocca, 2:03.28. 200m butterfly: 1, C Beardsley, 1:58.77; 2, S Gregg, 2:00.35; 3, A Wren, 2:01.49. 200m breaststroke: 1, D Solbs, 2:19.84; 2, R Schroeder, 2:19.87; 3, J Moffet, 2:20.98. British position: 7, I Campbell, 2:23.00.
Women: 100m freestyle: 1, N Hogshead, 55.99; 2, C Steinseifer, 56.83; 3, H Strang, 58.98. 200m backstroke: 1, A White, 2:14.91; 2, T Andrews, 2:16.42; 3, A Hayes, 2:17.23. 200m butterfly: 1, M Meagher, 2:07.87; 2, T Bruce, 2:13.52; 3, M Buddmeyer, 2:13.77. 200m breaststroke: 1, J Childs, 2:35.26; 2, S Hermstad, 2:35.42; 3, K Rodenbaugh, 2:36.03.

YACHTING

NEWPORT BEACH, California. 470 Class Regatta: 1, P Melvin (US), 22.7 pts; 2, F McLaughlin (Can), 26.0; J Shadden (US), 34.0. British position: 9, M Holmes, 70.7

CANOEING

BALA, North Wales. Race 3: Rapid racing championships: 1, C Bonozzi (Fr), 1mm 26.24sec, 2, M Smith (GB), 1:26.48, 3, J-C Leroux (Fr), 1:26.59. Race 4: 1, J Dunseath (GB), 1:24.98; 2, G Peinhaupt (Austria), 1:25.71, 3, D R H Taylor (GB), 1:26.50. Overall result: 1, J Dunseath, 65 pts; 2, M Smith, 65, 3, C Benezit, 49

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

CHESTER: International pre-Olympic competition: Leading scorers (after first day): Skeet: P Bentley (GB), 74 out of 75, O Thorsager (Den), S Murton (GB), F Perez (Sp), R Northe (Ire) and G Adaway (GB), all with 73. Trap: E Vivier, (Bel), 73 out of 75; R Ruiz (Sp), 71, J Tennison (GB) and K Borley (GB), both with 70.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Detroit Pistons 108, Chicago Bulls 101, Boston Celtics 114, Dallas Mavericks 107; Philadelphia 76ers 109, Washington Bullets 103; Indiana Pacers 99, New York Knicks 93, Milwaukee Bucks 130, Cleveland Cavaliers 98, San Diego Clippers 122, Los Angeles Lakers 115; Seattle Supersonic 111, Kansas City Kings 94

GOLF

JAKARTA: Indonesian Open: Leading first round scores: 67 M Aebli (US), B Mog (US); 68 D Hobby (US); 69 W Israelson (US), F Minoza (Phil), W Smith (AUS).

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Washington Capitals 6, New Jersey Devils 2; Philadelphia Flyers 5, Pittsburgh Penguins 3, Detroit Red Wings 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 2; Minnesota North Stars 6, Chicago Black Hawks 3; Vancouver Canucks 5, Winnipeg Jets 1.
VARESE, ITALY: WORLD UNDER-20 CHAMPIONSHIP: Hungary 3, Bulgaria 3; Belgium 4, Italy B 2, Great Britain 7, Australia 5

HOCKEY

BRITISH POLYTECHNICS CUP: Final: Portsmouth 2, Bristol 1.

FOOTBALL

BELGIAN CUP: Semi-finals, second leg: (first leg in brackets). Beveren 1, Standard Liege 3 (1-2); Lierse 1, Ghent 0 (1-3).
LIBERTADORES CUP: Nacional (Uru) 1, Danubio (Uru) 0; Blooming (Bol) 3, O'Higgins (Chile)
SWISS LEAGUE: La Chaux-de-Fonds 1, Wettingen 0.

TENNIS

BOCA WEST, Florida: West Grand Prix tournament: Men's singles, second round (US unless stated): J Connors bt A Krickstein, 6-0, 6-0; J Arias bt B Gottfried, 6-7, 6-3, 6-4; M Purcell bt N Odizor (Nig), 6-3, 3-6, 6-3; S Giammalva (US) bt E Teltscher, 6-1, 5-7, 7-6.
BOSTON: Virginia Slims tournament: First round: P Casale (US) bt C Jolissaint (Switz), 6-1, 6-3; H Mandlikova (Cz) bt L Bonder 6-2, 6-3; B Hess (US) bt A Brown, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3. Second round: H Sukova (Cz) bt P Paradis (Fr), 6-3, 6-2; K Sands (US) bt V Ruzici (Rom), 6-2, 6-4; A Moulton (US) bt M L Piatek (US), 6-4, 7-6; B Potter (US) bt J Russell (US), 6-1, 6-3.

SNOOKER

IRISH MASTERS: Quarter-final: D Taylor (N Ire) bt C Thorburn (Can), 5-1.

BOXING

ATLANTIC CITY: IBF super middleweight championships: M Sutherland (US) bt E Singletary, pts.

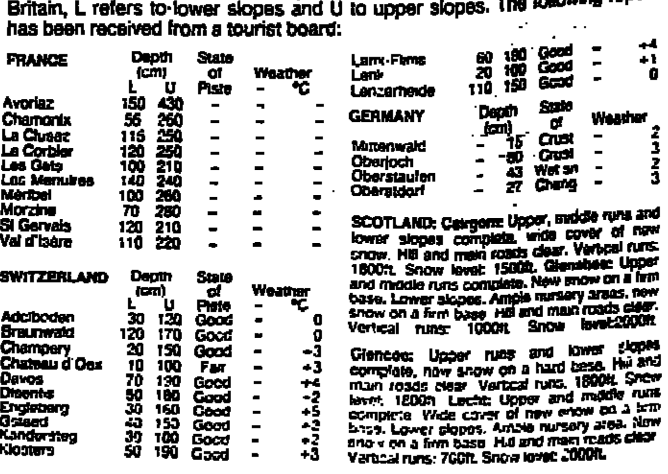
CYCLING

MONTAUBAN, France: Midi-Pyrenees race: Auch to Montauban (second stage): 1, L van Vliet (Bel). Overall leader: P Simon (Fr).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	140	800	Fair	Varied	Fair	Snow	03
New snow on hard base							
Arosa	130	175	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-3
New snow on good base							
Courmayeur	140	280	Good	Heavy	Good	Cloud	+3
Good skiing on piste							
Grindelwald	20	120	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-3
New snow on good base							
Isola	180	200	Good	Spring	Good	Fine	+5
Limited runs, avalanche danger							
La Plagne	160	380	Good	Heavy	Good	Cloud	+4
10cm snow on varied base							
Leysin	60	175	Good	Powder	Fair	Cloud	+4
Strong closed most lifts							
St. Anton	45	100	Good	Heavy	Fair	Snow	+1
New snow on hard base							
Soldieu	60	145	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	+5
Best skiing on upper runs							
Tignes	180	340	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	
Excellent skiing off piste							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:



FRANCE	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Avoriaz	150	430	–	–	–
Chamonix	56	260	–	–	–
La Clusaz	115	250	–	–	–
La Corbier	120	250	–	–	–
Les Gets	100	210	–	–	–
Les Menuires	140	240	–	–	–
Méribel	100	260	–	–	–
Morzine	70	280	–	–	–
St Gervais	120	210	–	–	–
Val d'Isère	110	220	–	–	–

SWITZERLAND	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Adelboden	30	130	Good	–	0
Braunwald	120	170	Good	–	0
Champery	20	150	Good	–	-3
Chateau d'Oex	10	100	Fair	–	+3
Davos	70	130	Good	–	+4
Disentis	50	180	Good	–	-2
Engelberg	30	160	Good	–	+5
Gstaad	40	150	Good	–	+3
Kandersteg	30	100	Good	–	+2
Klosters	50	190	Good	–	+3
Lenk-Flims	60	180	Good	–	+4
Lenk	20	100	Good	–	+1
Lenzerheide	110	150	Good	–	0

GERMANY	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Mittenwald	–	15	Crust	–	2
Oberjoch	–	80	Crust	–	3
Oberstaufen	–	43	Wet sn	–	2
Oberstdorf	–	27	Chang	–	3

SCOTLAND: Cairgorm: Upper, middle runs and lower slopes complete, wide cover of new snow. Hill and main roads clear. Vertical runs: 1600ft. Snow level: 1500ft. Glenshee: Upper and middle runs complete. New snow on a firm base. Lower slopes. Ample nursery areas, new snow on a firm base. Hill and main roads clear. Vertical runs: 1000ft. Snow level: 2000ft.

Glencoe: Upper runs and lower slopes complete, new snow on a hard base. Hill and main roads clear. Vertical runs, 1800ft. Snow level: 1800ft. Lecht: Upper and middle runs complete. Wide cover of new snow on a firm base. Lower slopes. Ample nursery area. New snow on a firm base. Hill and main roads clear. Vertical runs: 700ft. Snow level: 2000ft.

RACING: SURPRISE RIDING ENGAGEMENT FOR IRISH NATIONAL HOPE

Cheers can make most of belated opportunity

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Cheers (nap) can strengthen his claim to be regarded as the best English-trained four-year-old hurdler by winning the Liverpool Hurdle at Aintree today.

If Cheers is successful the result will be some compensation for his trainer, Michael Dickinson, and owner, Rod Gunner, for their disappointment at Cheltenham, where the horse was balloted out of the Triumph Hurdle.

Before Cheltenham, Cheers had won his only race, a humble affair at Market Rasen. Since then, he has won two similar races at Fakenham and Kelso. On no occasion has he given concrete proof that he is capable of winning a race of this nature, but he has shown that he is brim full of promise. Dickinson hs maintained all along that he has a high regard for the colt, who had good form on the flat in France last summer, and now I expect Cheers to give positive backing to his trainer's opinion.

The best form of his opponents is represented by Son of a Gunner, Star of Screen and Afzal who finished fifth, sixth and seventh respectively, behind the Irish challengers in the Triumph Hurdle.

Lettoch (2.35) could be another winner for Dickinson but Bregawn will need to pull up his socks if he is to beat Drumlargan (3.45).

Lettoch has Straight Accord and the course specialist King Or Country to beat in the Holiday Inn International Handicap Steeplechase. This season, Straight Accord has raced only at Windsor, where he is unbeaten, so he should not be troubled by the sharp Mildmay track, yet on good ground, I prefer Lettoch who was still in with a chance in the Sun Alliance Steeplechase at Cheltenham when he stumbled and fell on landing over the second last fence.

The Perrier Jouet Champagne Cup Chase was designed as a consolation prize for Gold Cup horses and it has succeeded in attracting three of those who ran in the blue riband of steeplechasing at Cheltenham, Drumlargan (third); Bregawn (sixth) and Royal Bond (eighth). In the good old days I would have expected Bregawn to win but until he shows he can be trusted again he must be overlooked in favour of Drumlargan.

Noddy's Ryde, my selection for the Sporting Life Weekender Novices Steeplechase is one of Cheltenham's heroes even though he was beaten. His epic duel with Bobsline in the Arkle Challenge Trophy was unquestionably one of the highlights of the National Hunt Festival. There is no horse with the calibre of Bobsline among his opposition today and it is not difficult to envisage Noddy's Ryde leading all the way.

Breac Ban would be an immensely popular winner of the Monksfield Novices Hurdle as he is trained by Bob Champion, who rode Aldaniti to victory in the Grand National three years ago after winning a personal fight against cancer. Recently that remarkable story reached an even wider audience when the film *Champions* went on general release.

Breac Ban had good form in the Autumn. She has been rested during the winter and kept specifically fresh for the moment that the ground is good again, and that is precisely what it is at Liverpool. If she runs up to her form when runner-up to Catch Phrase at Cheltenham she will be hard to beat.

Date set for Day inquiry

The Jockey Club inquiry involving the Flat jockey Nigel Day and professional punter Harry Bardsley will now be held on Thursday, April 12, at Portman Square. The disciplinary committee recently banned Bardsley from racecourses for 15 years after he admitted giving a £1,000 bribe to the jockey Billy Newnes. Newnes received a three-year race riding suspension.

Amateur is booked for Eliogarty

Eliogarty has drifted in the betting to 14-1 following the announcement that the 1983 Cheltenham Foxhunters winner will be ridden in tomorrow's Seagram-sponsored Grand National by Donal Hassett, (Michael Seely writes). A 24-year-old dairy farmer from Clare, Mr Hassett is no relation to Eliogarty, who has been the subject of a gamble for the big race. So the rumours linking the names of John Francome and John O'Neill with Eliogarty have proved groundless.

"Eliogarty has always been ridden by a good jockey and I have every confidence in Donie's ability," said the trainer yesterday. The jockey rides regularly for Hassett in "bumper" races in Ireland. He has also been successful over hurdles, in hunter chases in point-to-points.

● Niall Madden's Grand National ride on Jacko was put in jeopardy by a freak accident at Taunton yesterday. Madden was cantering Carp to the start for the seller when the gelding threw his head back and caught Madden in the face.

Carp was immediately withdrawn and Madden returned with blood gushing from a cut under his left eye.

● Paul Barton, out of action since being badly bruised in a fall at Ludlow last Friday, makes his comeback on the Irish horse Fortune Seeker in the Grand National tomorrow.

Lingfield doubt

There will be a 3pm inspection today to see if tomorrow's Lingfield meeting can take place. A course spokesman said: "It's fifty-fifty whether we go ahead at the moment. We couldn't take any further rain as the going is already heavy."

Third Foxhunters lucky for Gayle Warning

By Michael Seely

It was third time lucky for Gayle Warning at Aintree yesterday. Third in the Liverpool Foxhunters in 1982 and runner-up to Atha Cliath last year, the Scottish-trained 10-year-old quickened away from Lone Soldier on the run-in to give his jockey, Sandy Dudgeon, a 28-year-old accountant from Edinburgh, his first victory over these enormous fences.

Gayle Warning mastered the long time leader, Reliable Robert, as they crossed the Melling Road, after the third fence from home. From that point the winner and Lone Soldier were the only two in the hunt. Peter Greenall was seen at his strongest and most determined on the runner-up but Gayle Warning was always travelling far too well. Eight lengths separated the first two home. Talen and Brod Munro-Wilson finished 10 lengths away in third place.

It had been touch and go whether Gayle Warning had been allowed to run in tomorrow's Grand National instead of yesterday's race. "We had tremendous family arguments about it", said John Dudgeon, the owner-trainer. "Sandy and I were in favour, but my wife was dead against it. In the end she had her way. But I'm glad, as we are hunting and farming folk and this is our race. Gayle Warning will run in hunter chases for the rest of this season and then we'll think about the 1985 National."

It was also the first taste of Aintree glory for Andrew Stringer, after the 21-year-old Yorkshire jockey had ridden Fabulous to a narrow victory over Artimarval in the Kaltenberg Pils Handicap Chase. Romany Count took the lead after jumping the last fence, but Fabulous quickened to lead soon after passing the elbow. Artimarval finished best of all and would probably have won but for a blunder at the second fence from home.

Stringer has his first National Mount on the moody Another Captain tomorrow. "If it goes like that, it will be alright," said the jockey afterwards. Stringer's previous big-race successes were gained on Tall Order in the Joe Coral Golden Hurdle final at the 1983 National Hunt festival and in the County Hurdle on Hill's Guard earlier this month. Fabulous is one of 17 horses trained at Motherwell in Scotland by John Wilson.

Sixteen of the 24 starters completed the course. Man Alive fell at the first fence and his jockey, John O'Neill, was taken to Walton Hospital where a cut over his left eye was stitched. "As long as there is no serious swelling, he should be alright to ride Dawn Run on Saturday," said Dr Michael Allen, the Jockey Club senior medical officer.

Dawn Run's trainer Paddy Mullins struck his first blow of the meeting when his son, Tony, rode Street Angel to a decisive victory in the Holiday Inn Hurdle. Mollington finished second, but after a stewards' inquiry and an objection by Robert Chapman on Jade and Diamond, who finished third, these placings were reversed.

Street Angel is certainly a tough performer. "He's been placed in two Irish Cesarewichs," said the trainer, "and he was only beaten a short head in the Naas November Handicap. He loves this fast ground. He's only a small little horse and can't go in the heavy."

In contrast to Mullins, Martin Pipe had thought that the going would be too firm for Baron Blakeney in the Cystic Fibrosis Chase. However, the 1981 Triumph Hurdle winner jumped far too quickly for his seven rivals and won unchallenged.

Forgive N' Forget, the 6-5 favourite, was never jumping with his customary freedom and finished last of the five to complete. "It must be a recurrence of his old back trouble", said Jimmy Fitzgerald, his trainer.



O'Neill: nasty cut

The afternoon had started on a triumphant note for Michael Dickinson and Dermot Browne, when Browne's Gazette had given a repeat performance of his Cheltenham victory in the Knowsley Novice's Hurdle. Despite conceding 12lb to Hill's Pageant, the winner of the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novice's Hurdle sprinted clear

Browne, the 22-year-old reigning champion amateur, deserves every credit for his enterprising riding of the winner. "I always like lying close to the pace. If you get behind and make a mistake, you've had it." The champion trainer said that Browne's Gazette will now be prepared for the Tia Maria Handcap Hurdle at Haydock Park in May.

Jenny Pitman rides tall and hard in a man's world

First Lady of the National

The saying around the stables it that you are more sensitively cared for as a horse than a human under the eagle eye of Jenny Pitman. And she admits it. The senior lad at one famous stable, reflecting on her unique and spectacular impact upon National Hunt racing, observed knowingly: "She sure is hard."

The description would not offend Mrs Pitman. A senior handicapper is said almost to have ruptured a blood vessel recently when on the receiving end of her colourful opinion concerning the weight for one of her horses. In her days as a stable girl for her father, one of the hacks came to be known as Sodyer, from her comments on its wilfulness.

Yet this formidable woman, who will send out Corbiere perfectly prepared tomorrow to defend his Grand National title, possesses, beneath an exterior as unflinching as Maxim Gorky's grandmother, the gentle disposition of a nurse. In the words of my colleague, Michael Seely, she is "a quite outstanding judge of what a horse can do: a traditional realist, which is a rare quality."

First woman

For anyone unfamiliar with the racing world, Mrs Pitman's achievement of becoming the first woman in 144 years to train a National winner and within 12 month take the prized Cheltenham Gold Cup with Burrough Hill Lad, is equivalent to Rachael Flint going out to open against the West Indies with Gatting. In racing, women either muck out the stables or try to look as handsome as the horse in the winner's enclosure.

Tomorrow morning before 7.0 Jenny Pitman will have watched Corky, as the champion is known, and the jockey, Ben de Haan, have a short workout and will then walk the four-and-a-half-mile course to determine just how each ferocious fence should be approached in the prevailing conditions. Just get my horses and riders round safely, she will say to herself, and I'll give up swearing or smoking. . . . Please God, don't let any of them get hurt.

The astonishing thing about the woman who has conquered a man's world is that she is not all Amazon but an emotional mother and, when it happens, a miserably divorced wife; a girl who adored her father and grew up on a Leicestershire farm under his guidance knowing just what she must do to match the boys.

She has just published an autobiography, *Glorious Uncertainty*, which in a sense ought never to have been written. Her joint-author, Sue Gibson, and her publishers should have protected her from baring her soul, from revealing many intimacies of her stricken relationship with the former jockey, Richard Pitman, which would perhaps have been better unsaid. Yet she is so unfalteringly spontaneous and honest that she probably



Mrs Pitman: gentler with horses

could not help herself, never mind the publishers' expectant rubbing of hands.

When I asked her at Cheltenham, just before Burrough Hill Lad fulfilled all her prophecies, whether she was pleased that the truth was out, like Nelson she said she could not tell a lie. "If I tell the truth, then I always know what I've said. I'm *incapable of handling half-truths. No, I'm not* not glad it's published."

Time for tears

You wonder, as time will eventually heal, if she will regret some hurtful asides about Richard's relationship with their sons; but he is mature enough still to be predicting fulsomely, as professional commentator, that Corky will win again tomorrow. She herself admits that when, still married, Richard was beaten in the National run-in on Crisp by Red Rum, she was too upset to talk about it for six months. They grew apart, she reflects, largely because he was a successful jockey while she was labouring, anonymously, to become a successful trainer.

Her life, and the book, are fascinating, an amalgam of determination, luck, joy and sorrow. "I'm just an ordinary person," she said at Cheltenham among an admiring crowd. "And I think that's why some people seem to like me. The National victory hasn't changed me. I had not private education, no silver spoon. I'm glad there are people with money and I'm pleased to work for them. But I still don't like parties, or drinking, though I'll occasionally have a brandy if I'm really knackered."

"You can tell the kind of brave/afraid woman she is from the incident in 1982 when Lord Gulliver, a potential National entry, died of a heart attack during a training gallop while ridden by her sister, Mandy. In the grief of the moment the weeping Mandy was told to pull herself together. It was later in private that Jenny's own tears were released.

She rode at 14 months and won her first race at four. There was no gas, electricity or running water in her early childhood days at the farm. Kitchen sink taps, a radio . . . these were revelations to come. Working from dawn to dusk, she learnt every wrinkle of equestrian psychology, with working horses which could not be allowed to go lame; which is why she now laughingly agrees that she is gentler with horses than humans "because the horses don't understand so well".

Those were the days when lunch was a raw turnip in the fields and late at night under a lamp in the stable she would fall asleep in her father's lap after sharing a bowl of bread and milk. Yet this tomboy, who ceremoniously made herself a "blood brother" with another stable lad, who preferred new wellies for Christmas rather than a doll, was a mean hockey player, a tearaway who scrumped apples daringly, and when she fractured her skull in a fall, refused to cry in front of nurses in hospital.

Hunting girl

She hunted as a girl with the Quorn, rode point-to-point at 14, and fell head-over-heels at 18 for the promising young *jockey at Bishop's Cleeve stable. "I loved* him so deeply I would have changed places when he was injured." They married. She changed her religion to Catholicism. Two sons arrived quickly. Lord Cadogan helped them set up their own yard but life was still economically hard. Moreover, "I didn't understand Richard's riding pressures and he didn't recognize my training progress in point-to-points".

She remembers going to apply for her trainer's licence at the Jockey Club, where the stewards on the other side of the polished table whispered in her presence, which in her country way she thought was rude.

Career and marriage moved in opposite directions until one Christmas when separation and an appendicitis arrived almost the same day. But within four years she was training 28 winners in a season. And then there was Corky. The story of his progress from raw novice, through alarming injury to champion, is alone worth reading. Mrs Pitman is some lady.

David Miller

LIVERPOOL (BBC)

[Televised: (BBC1) 2.35, 3.10, (BBC2) 3.45, 4.20]

GOING: good

Tote: double: 3.10, 4.20. Treble: 2.35, 3.45, 4.50

2.0 RED RUM NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,267: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

101	422f10	DUDIE (D) (Mrs S McCarthy) P Mullins (Ire) 6-11-10	A Mullins
103	010112	GRINDERS (BF) (Needhams Butchers) E Carter 6-11-4	P A Charlton
105	221111	PADDY'S PERIL (D,B) (H Maddever) R Carter 8-11-1	S Smith Eccles
106	1ff1p2	GREEN BRAMBLE (Lady Plummer) N Henderson 7-10-13	J Francome
107	122p02	CAPTAIN DAWN (P Hopkins) J Gifford 8-10-7	R Rowe
108	f01331	STAND BACK (D) (W Crawford) W A Stephenson 7-10-6	R Lamb
110	113201	KING'S JUG (David Timothy) Mrs M Rimell 6-10-4	S Morshead
111	0-u4f13	CHUMMY'S BEST (D) (R Shaw) R Shaw 6-10-2	A Webber
112	0-b0232	TARQOGAN'S CHOICE (M Wickens) J Edwards 7-10-0	N Madden
113	000023	CLICKHAM LAD (M Morley) N Chamberlain 8-10-0	A Stringer
114	10f121	SEA SPLASH (Mrs M Brennan) O Brennan 8-10-0	M Brennan

1983: Ballymilan 6-10-2 A Webber (33-1) M Oliver 13 ran.

3 Green Bramble, 100-30 Captain Dawn, 5 Chummy's Best, Grinders, 8 Dudie, 10 Stand Back, Paddys Peril, 12 King's Jug, 16 others.

FORM: DUDIE (11-4) beaten over 19l when 8th to A Kinsman (11-4) at Cheltenham (3m, £22,892, good, Mar 14). GRINDERS 2nd last time, earlier (11-8) beat Golden Knoll (10-7) 8l at Wetherby (2m 4f, £11,706, good, Feb 29). PADDY'S PERIL (11-7) was winning 6th race when beating black Rod (11-7) 2l at Kempton (3m, £1,616, firm, Nov 16). GREEN BRAMBLE (12-0) 5l 2ndd to Lulav (11-0) (Towcester, 2m, £952, good, Mar 22). CAPTAIN DAW (10-8), having first run since October, beaten 2l by Zelda's Fancy (10-2) at Fontwell (2m 3, £2,440, firm, Mar 20). STAND BACK (10-6), won 2½l from Strawhill (10-0) at Sedgefield (2m 4f, £1,486, good to soft, Mar 13). KING'S JUG (11-7) beat Captain Kelly (11-7) 4l on Chasing Debut (Ludlow, 2m, £967, Good, Mar 1). TARQOGAN'S CHOICE (11-0) beaten 12l by Charter Party (11-3) at Sandown (2m 4f, £2,376, good to firm, Mar 10). SEA SPLASH (11-2) won by 2l from Pretty Tough (10-4) (Southwell, 2m £794, soft, Mar 12).
SELECTION: CAPTAIN DAWN.

2.35 HOLIDAY INN INTERNATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,893: 3m 1f) (9)

203	00-1111	STRAIGHT ACCORD (N Paravicini) F Walwyn 9-11-8	S Shilston
204	100220	KING OR COUNTRY (C) (Maincrest Ltd) D Barons 13-11-7	H Davies
205	111211	LETTOCH (J Laurie) M Dickinson 7-11-4	G Bradley
207	12p024	EASTER CARNIVAL (D) (Mrs M Best) K Bishop 8-10-8	B Powell 7
208	3-2p401	ACARINE (Mrs P W Harris) P Harris 8-10-8 (3 ex)	P Scudamore
210	222323	KUDOS (J Blundell) J Blundell 9-10-2	D Dutton
211	222449	WHY FORGET (Robert S Bell) W A Stephenson 8-10-2	R Lamb
212	2404p4	RED CLERIC (R Illingworth) M Naughton 10-10-0	R Stronge
216	000030	BORDER JEWEL (P Cullen) J Crowley (Ire) 10-10-0	M Cummins

1983: Fauloon 8-10-7 W Smith (8-1) F Walwyn 13 ran.

7-4 Lettoch, 5 Acarine, 7 King Or Country, Straight Accord, 10 Why Forget, 12 Kudos, Red Cleric, 14 Easter Carnival, 33 Border Jewel.

FORM: STRAIGHT ACCORD (11-11) beat Crosa (10-0), ½l (Windsor, 3m 4f, £1,853, good, Mar 5). KING OR COUNTRY 9th at Cheltenham (2m 4f, Mar 14), earlier (10-1 2½l 2nd to Midnight Love (10-3) at Haydock (3m, £11,343, good, Mar 3). LETTOCH fell at Cheltenham (Mar 14), previsly beaten only once over fences. When (11-13) 4l behind Ardent Spy (11-7) at Towcester (2m 6f, £3,090, good to soft, Feb 14). EASTER CARNIVAL (11-7) beaten over 23l when 4th to Crosa (10-7 at Newton Abbot (3m 2f, £3,091, good to fir, Mar 14). ACARINE (12-7) beat Bayham Sir Vardo (10-5) 5l at Fakenham (2m 8f, £1,397, good, Mar 16). WHY FORGET (10-5) beaten 68l when last of six finiers behind Hardy Lad (10-6) at Newcastle (33m, £4,799, good to soft, Mar 17). RED CLERIC (10-12) beaten 12½l when 4th to Mount Oliver (10-0) at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, £1,876, good to soft, Mar 17).
Selection: LETTOCH

3.10 LIVERPOOL HURDLE (4-y-o: £9,112: 2m) (17)

302	u22111	ADMIRAL'S RULER (D) (W Ponsonby) F Walwyn 11-4	K Mooney
303	210330	DODGY FUTURE (D) (D Lowe) S Mellor 11-4	A Webber
305	231120	AFZAL (K Fischer) R Hollinshead 11-0	J O'Neill
306	0004	BONALMA (G Turkington) A Moore (Ire) 11-0	T J Taaffe
307	111	CHEERS (D) (R Gunner) M Dickinson 11-0	R Earnshaw
308	2u1223	DHOFAR (D) (Lt-Col E Harries) G Pritchard-Gordon 11-0	S Smith Eccles
309	200130	HOORAH HENRY (D) (M Silver) D Nicholson 11-0	P Scudamore
313	021100	NUDGE NUDGE (D) (A Birchall) S Mellor 11-0	R Lamb
314	0	ONWARDLEE (G Morley) H Wharton 11-0	M Dwyer
315	002120	OULA OWL (Mrs C Clatworthy) J Gifford 11-0	R Rowe
316	004000	RING OF DIAMONDS (T Brennan) J Crowley (Ire) 11-0	M Cummins
317	021	ROYAL BRIGADIER (D) (G Mosses) G Balding 11-0	R Chapman
318	800	RULER ON A LARK (J Spielman) J Edwards 11-0	P Tuck
319	3410	SEAGRAM (D) (Maincrest Ltd) D Barons 11-0	H Davies
321	11120	SON OF A GUNNER (D) (Dr D Morris) S Mellor 11-0	M Perrett
322	f32230	STAR OF IRELAND (H Pink) A Jarvis 11-0	G Newman
323	110	STAR OF SCREEN (D) (Mrs J Dyson) J Edwards 11-0	N Madden

1983: Benfen 11-0 A Brown (16-1) M H Easterby 9 ran.

100-30 Cheers, 4 Son Of A Gunner, 6 Admiral's Ruler, Star Of Screen, 8 Afzal, 12 Hoorah Henry, Oula Owl, 16 Star Of Ireland, Dodgy Future, 20 others.

FORM: ADMIRALS RULER (11-2) 3l winner from Derby Dilly (Sandown 2m, £3,505, good to firm, Mar 10). AFZAL 7th last time, previously (11-4) head 2nd to Childown (11-9) with HOORAH HENRY (11-4) 3l away in 3rd (Haydock, 2m, £4,971, good, Mar 31). BONALMA (10-8) 5l 4th to Nore Prince (11-4) at Naas (2m, £5,820, yielding, Mar 31). CHEERS (10-7) 10l winner from Cool Andy (11-8) (Kelso, 2m, £821, good, Mar 21). SEAGRAM (11-1) 18l 7th to Eversaal (10-13) with NUDGE NUDGE (10-10) out of first 9 (Newbury, 2m, £8,752, soft, Mar 24). SON OF A GUNNER (11-0) 17l 5th to Northern Game (11-0) with STAR OF SCREEN (11-0) ½l back in 6th, AFZAL (11-0) a further head away in 7th, and HOORAH HENRY (11-0), DODGY FUTURE (11-0), STAR OF IRELAND (11-0), and OULA OWL (11-0) out of first 9 (Cheltenham 2m, £20,210, good, Mar 15). Earlier, STAR OF SCREEN (11-3) 12l winner from Santiago Sol (10-2) (Devon, 2m 1f, £849, soft, Jan 2).
SELECTION: STAR OF SCREEN.

3.45 PERRIER JOUET CHAMPAGNE CUP CHASE (£6,920: 3m 1f) (4)

401	123r20	BREGAWN (C,D) (J Kennelly) M Dickinson 10-11-5	G Bradley
403	134313	DRUMLARGAN (M Cuddy) E O'Grady (Ire) 10-11-5	Mr F Codd
404	121110	FRED PILLINER (D) (N Johnson) M Scudamore 7-11-5	P Scudamore
405	22000	ROYAL BOND (Mrs G Malcolmson) A Moore (Ire) 11-11-5	T J Taaffe

1983: No corresponding race.

10-11 Drumlargan, 13-8 Bregawn, 6 Royal Bond, 14 Fred Pilliner.

FORM: BREGAWN (12-0) 5th to Burrough Hill Lad (12%-0) in Gold Cup, beaten under 27l. DRUMLARGAN (12-0) 3rd, beaten 11l, and ROYAL BOND (12-0) (Cheltenham, 3m 2f, £47,375, good, Mar 17). Fred Pillinar (10-13) beaten over 30l when 6th to Tracys Special (11-1) at Cheltenham (3m 1f, £13,219, good, Mar 17).
SELECTION: DRUMLARGAN

Liverpool selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Captain Dawn. 2.35 Lettoch. 3.10 CHEERS (nap). 3.45 Drumlargan. 4.20 Noddy's Ryde. 4.50 Breac Ban.

By Michael Seely

2.0 King's Jug. 2.35 LETTOCH (nap). 4.20 Noddy's Ryde.

4.20 SPORTING LIFE WEEKENDER NOVICE CHASE (£4,674: 2m) (12)

501	113112	NODDY'S RYDE (D) (P Hinchliff) G Richards 7-11-10	N Doughty
502	121232	RIVER RHEIN (D) C Bowen-Colthurst) J Webber 7-11-7	G McCourt
504	010110	AVERSUN (Mrs J Hubbard) W Haigh 8-11-3	P A Charlton
505	004112	BORN TO SHINE (D) (T Kinane) T Kinane (Ire) 9-11-3	T Kinane
508	0-21132	GLAMOUR SHOW (BF) (W Pilkington) J Gifford 8-11-3	R Rowe
509	00000-f	HOT PRETENCE (D Hodgson) J Wilson 7-11-3	—
510	00-3010	JOE DENBY (D) (T Duggan) B Kelly (Ire) 6-11-3	P Leech
513	221480	SILENT ECHO (D) (A Blackmore) A Blackmore 8-11-3	Mr R Dunwoody
514	4/00023	SINGALONG SAM (D) (BF) (F Watson) F Watson 7-11-3	R Lamb
515	323321	VEILED CITY (D) (F Storey) F Storey 8-11-3	B Storey
516	00000	CHARMING PADDY (Miss J Saul) J Crowley (Ire) 5-10-8	M Cummins
517	2122fu	ORP BALTIC (D) (P Bennett) E Alston 5-10-9	D Dutton

1983: Ryeman 8-11-11 A Brown (10-11 fav) M H Easterby 8 ran.

4-7 Noddy's Ryde, 7 Orp Baltic, 8 Glamour Show, 10 Veiled City, River Rhein, 14 Born To Shine, 20 others.

FORM: NODDY'S RYDE (11-8) 2nd to Bobsline (11-8) at Cheltenham (2m, £17,750, good, Mar 13) when ORP BALTIC unseated rider. RIVER RHEIN (11-7) beaten 2l by Mossy Moore (11-7) at Kempton (2m, £2,431, good to firm, Feb 25) with SILENT ECHO (11-2) 8l back in 4th. AVERSUN disappointed last time, earlier (10-11) awarded race after finishing short head 2nd to Jimmy Chips (10-0) at Wetherby (2m, £2,309, good, Feb 29). BORN TO SHINE (11-0) beaten 2½ by Will Boreen (11-8) at Leopardstown (2m 4f h'cap, £1,170, good to soft, Mar 17). JOE DENBY, 7th last time, earlier (11-5) beat Gabani (11-11) 10l at Navan (2m £1,311, soft, Dec 17).
Selection: NODDY'S RYDE.

4.50 MONKSFIELD NOVICE HURDLE (£3,896: 2m 5f 110yd) (14)

602	3211p1	HILL-STREET-BLUES (D Crates) J Fox 6-11-9	S Moore
603	131212	RUN OVER (BF) (P Piller) W A Stephenson 6-11-9	R Lamb
605	2213	I HAVENTALIGHT (B Brazier) F Winter 5-11-5	J Francome
607	302031	ANTIGUAN MOON (R Beeson) J Blundell 6-11-1	D Dutton
608	0121	ARCTIC BEAU (P Venn) J Thorne 6-11-1	—
611		ERMAC (R Clarke) A Watson 6-11-1	D Shaw
613	000210	HERBERT UNITED (R Bell) D McDonogh (Ire) 5-11-1	H Rogers
620	000001	PASS THE PLATE (Mrs P Mullins) P Mullins (Ire) 6-11-1	A Mullins
623	00000	SANDCRACKER (G Hartas) M Elerby 5-11-1	A Dickman
624	p3420	STEEL YEOMAN (BF) (Mrs H Alwan) J Gifford 6-11-1	R Rowe
625	111112	BREAC BAN (BF) (Ladbroke Racing) R Champion 6-10-10	H Davies
626	002003	LADY LAWYER (T Brockbank) J Brockbank 6-10-10	T G Dun
627	013140	LOCHBOISDALE (Winterbourne Construction) J King 4-10-10	S Smith Eccles
630	002301	FEELS RIGHT (Shaikh Amin Dahlawi) D Nicholson 4-10-6	P Scudamore

1983: Ballinacurra Lad 8-11-13 P Leech (7-1) J Crowley (Ire) 9 ran.

9-4 I Haventalight, 4 Herbert United, 5 Run Over, 8 Breac Ban, 10 Lochboisdale, Pass The Plate, 12 Antiguan Moon, Hill-Street-Blues, 16 Arctic Beau, 20 others.

FORM: HILL-STREET-BLUES (12-1) short head winner from Winmarie (10-1) (Newton Abbot, 2m 5l, £2,582, good to firm, Mar 14). RUN OVER (10-10) 1l 2nd to Burn Nooka (11-8) at Ayr (2m 6f, £3,048, good, Mar 10). I HAVENTALIGHT (11-0) 7l 3rd to Aonoch (11-0) at Chepstow 2m, £11,132, good to soft, Mar 10). ARTIC BEAU, now trained in England, (10-3) beat Casablanca Lad (11-2) ½l in Navan h'cap (2m, £1,173, good, Nov 2). HERBERT UNITED (11-8) 17l 5th to Brownes Gazette (11-8) with FEELS RIGHT (11-0) out of first 9 (Cheltenham, 2m, £16,774, good, Mar 13). PASS THE PLATE (12-0) scored 5l victory over Hourly Rate (11-11) at Clonmel (2m 4f, £986, good to soft, Mar 8). BREAC BAN (11-3) 1½l 2nd to Catch Phrase (11-5) at Cheltenham (3m 1f, £1,549, firm, Nov 11). LOCHBOISDALE unplaced in Triumph last time, earlier (10-10) made all to beat Star of Ireland (10-10) 12l at Sandown (2m, £2,383, good to soft, Feb 4).
Selection: I HAVENTALIGHT.

Liverpool results

Going: good

2.00 KNOWSLEY NOVICE HURDLE (£4,507: 2m)
BROWNE'S GAZETTE b g by London Gazette – Austrian Girl (J Poynton) 6-11-11 Mr D Browne (10-11 fav) 1
Hill's Pageant b h by Welsh Pageant – Rata (L Thwaites) 5-10-13 K Mooney (4-1) 2
Another Shot ch g by Random Shot – Honours Bless (M White) 6-11-3 Mr T Walsh (12-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 5 Bajan Sunshine (5th), 14 Motor On (4th), 25 Super Grass, 50 Ring of Diamonds (6th), No-U-Turn, Ocean Storm, 100 Mr Marshall (PU), Sir Rob, Cleode Star, It's Kelly, Kellet. 14 ran. 5l, hd, 10l, 2l. BLmdickinson at Harewood.
TOTE WIN: £2.20. Places: £1.10, £1.20, £2.10. DF: £2.50. CSF: £4.81.

2.35 KALTENBERG PILS HANDICAP CHASE (£10,742: 2m 8f)
FABULOUS br g by Menelek – Great Lark (Mrs L Dyer) 11-10-0 A Stringer (33-1) 1
Artimarval ch g by Articulate – Mavala (R Beeson) 11-10-0 D Dutton (14-1) 2
Romany Count br g by Romany Air – Coturry (L Garrett) 12-10-3 S Smith Eccles (33-1) 3
Captain Parkhill ch g by Free Boy – dam by Vm Tarquin (B McLean) 11-10-1 C Hawkins (100-1) 4
ALSO RAN: 6 fav – Late Night Extra, 10 Staunton (f), Tiepolino (f), 12 Bashful Lad, Cloncormick (f), Fortina's Express, Will Boreen (6th), 14 Mr Snugfit, Staccato (5th), 16 Greenways (ur), 20 Major Knight, Man Alive (f), Poyntz Pass, 25 Hadajer, 33 Bueche Giorod, Jocks Bond, 50 Ambremont (ref), 66 Double Jack, 100 Tilthammer Mill (PU). 23 ran. NR: Daviot. 1l, 1l, 7l, hd, 10l. J Wilson at Motherwell.
TOTE WIN: £55.70. Places: £8.90, £3.30, £33.50, £41.60. DF: £1,596.60. CSF: £384.75. Tricast: £12,929.44.

3.10 CYSTIC FIBROSIS NOVICE CHASE (£4,032: 3m 1f)
BARON BLAKENEY gr h by Blakeney–Telelora (B Wheatley) 7-11-6 JOCKEY (14–1) 1
West Tip b g by Gala Performance – Astryl (P Luff) 7-11-6 J Francome (15–2) 2
Gearys Cold Rolled b g by Kambalda-Vatsera (D Pike) 7-11-6 C Grant (25–1) 3
Also Ran: 6-5 fav Forgive N' Forget (5th). 9-2 Captain Dynamo (pu), Donegal Prince (4th), 33 Succeeded (pu), 100 Palm Cross (pu). 8 ran. 6l, 4l, 4l, 10l. M Pipe at Wellington.
TOTE: Win: £9.70; places: £1.80, £1.80, £4.20. DF: £31.00. CSF: £94.59

3.45 HOLIDAY INN HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,103: 2m)
STREET ANGEL ch g by Levanter– Street Garden (O Freaney) 8-11-0 A Mullins (9–1) 1
Jade and Diamond ch g by Bold Lad–Tegleaze (R Lavelle) 6-10-7 R Chapman (7–1) 2
Mollington b g by Decoy Boy– Aces High (D Taylor) 5–10–40 G McCourt (25–1) 3
Also ran: 6–1 jt-favs Burns (4th), Stans Pride (5th), 13–2 Patricks Fair (6th), 8 Ballydurrow, 10 Jupiter Express, 11 Secret Ballot, 12 Sea Pennant, 16 Sword Game, 25 Catch Up, Rage Glen. 13 ran. 3l, ½, ½, 1, ½. P Mullins in Ireland.
TOTE: win: £10.30; places: £2.30, £1.90, £4.70. DF: £31.30. CSF: £63.83. Tricast: £1,353.58. Mollington finished second and Jade and Diamond third but after stewards' inquiry, placings were reversed.

4.20 HAIG FOXHUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £4,721: 2m 6f)
GAYLE WARNING ch g by Paraspax – Cathy Gale (J Dudgeon) 10-12-0 A Dudgeon (85-40 fav) 1
Lone Soldier b g by Normandy – All Alone II (J Docker) 12-12-0 P Greenall (14-1) 2
Talon ch g by George Spelvin – Batting Bessie (B Munro-Wilson) 9-12-0 B Munro Wilson (12-1) 3
Also Ran: 7 Blackavar (f), Mauritius (f), 8 Glencarry (5th), Roadhead (f), 14 Reliable Robert, 20 Towtamme (pu), 33 Barleydale, Caldwell Case (6th), Freddie Bee (f), Gay Tab (ref), Highway Dual (f), Larry Mac (f), Pelaro (4th), Roman Bar (f). 17 ran. 7l, 12l, 7l, 7l, 2l. J Dudgeon at Kirkliston.
TOTE: Win: £3.00. Places: £1.60, £3.30, £3.00. DF £27.10. CSF: £28.26.

4.50 EDWARD COURAGE MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,201: 2m 4f)
GAMBLING PRINCE ch g by Gambling Debt – Princess Hey (Mrs G E Jones) 11-10-0 J B urke (20-1) 1
Direct Line ch g by Straight Lad – Unsinkable Sarah (B Otter) 10-10-11 R O'Lea ry (10-1) 2
Half Free b g by Deep Run – Broken Union (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) 8-10-11 R Linley (7-2 jt-fav) 3
Also Ran: 7-2 jt-fav Voice of Progress (4th), 5 Gyster Pond, 6 Jugador (pu), 8 Bold Yeoman, 10 Mountain Hays (6th), 20 Cardinal's Outburst, Fire Drill (5th), 50 Intoxicated, 100 Barton Cross (pu). 12 ran. 2l, ½l, 6l, 10l, 4. Mrs G Jones at Upton-on-Severn.
TOTE: Win: £29.10. Places: £5.10, £3.50, £1.70, DF: £157.60. CSF: £187.26. Tricast: £793.85.

Double: £40.50. Treble: £173.40. Placepot £1,671.05. Jackpot not won.

Course specialists

LIVERPOOL

TRAINERS: F Walwyn 8 wins from 19 runners, 42.1%; M H Easterby 7 from 31, 22.6%; M W Dickinson 7 from 36, 19.4%. (Not including yesterday's results).

Taunton results

Going: good to soft.
2.15 (2m hdle) 1. Try To Remember (N Coleman, 9-4 fav); 2. Bryma (12-1); 3. Whenever (13-2). 2l, 10l. 18 ran. R Holder. Tote: £4.10; £2.40, £2.20, £2.80. DF: £9.70. CSF: £31.92.
2.50 (2m hdle) 1. Middleton Sue (S Earl, 7-1); 2. Junior Trustee (14-1); 3. Rugby Excavation (8-1). 5-1 fav. 3l, 4l. 15 ran. NR: Jimmy Boy. Carp. R Hodges. Tote: £7.50; £1.70, £21.20, £3.00. DF: £155.70. CSF: £95.02. Tricast: £739.46.
3.25 (3m 1f chase) 1 Crozbridge (Mr R Dunwoody, 9-2); 2. Housemistress (10-11 fav); 3. Sidbury Hill (20-1). 1½l, ½l. 12 ran. NR: Spartakus. Miss C James. Tote: £4.90; £1.20, £1.70, £2.50. DF: £3.60. CSF: £9.12.
4.0 (2m hdle) 1 Tight Turn (J Frost, 25-1); 2. Solitaire (7-1); 3. Lance Private (50-1). Beeleigh 2-1 fav. 3l 10l. 18 ran. R Frost. Tote: £41.30; £5.60, £2.70, £17.50. DF: £81.90. CSF: £178.29.
4.35 (2m chase) Little Trouble (R Hyett, 10-1); 2, Autoway (20-1); 3, Glen Moy (10-1); 4. Double Step (8-1). Tudor Road 3-1 fav. 1½l, 30l. 15 ran. C Hitchings. Tote: £9.80 £1.50, £2.40, £3.20, £2.00. DF: £197.70. CSF: £165.28.
5.5 (2m 3f hdle) 1 Corris Lad (Peter Hobbs, 10-1); 2, Cantabile (9-1); 3. Brobury (8-1); 4, Winmarie (5-2 fav.) 3l, 6l. 23 ran. NR: Deep Moppet. R Hodges. Tote: £15.80; £2.10, £3.40, £1.90, £1.70. DF: £219.70. CSF: £98.61. Tricast: £551.89. Placepot: £207.75.

● Try To Remember proved her trainer, Richard Holder, all wrong when winning the Pitminster Novices hurdle (division one) at Taunton yesterday by two lengths from Bryma. Holder, saddling runners at Liverpool, had told his daughter Louise that the filly had little chance of defying a penalty *incurred for* a recent Ludlow win.

Try To Remember had other ideas. Despite a very slow start, she made steady headway to lead at the last and ran on strongly to score readily. It was a fifth winner of the season for the claimer Nigel Coleman, who joined Holder at the beginning of the season after seven years with David Nicholson.

Weights for the Whitbread

WHITBREAD GOLD CUP (3m 5f 18yd, Sandown, April 28): Burrough Hill Lad 8-12-0, Wayward Lad 9-11-13, Brown Chamberlin 9-11-11, Bregawn 10-11-5, Observe 8-11-4, Drumlargan 10-11-3, Everett 8-11-0, A Kinsman 8-10-13, Silver Buck 12-10-11, Canny Danny 8-10-10, Diamond Edge 13-10-9, Midnight Love 9-10-9, Scot Lane 11-10-9, Little Bay 9-10-8, Royal Bond 11-10-8, Ashley House 10-10-7, Corbiere 9-10-7, Tracy's Special 7-10-5, Gritter 11-10-5, Broomy Bank 9-10-5, Harveystown 7-10-5, Lucky Vane 9-10-4, Special Cargo 11-10-4, Righthand Man 7-10-4, Ballinacurra Lad 9-10-4, Fethard Friend 9-10-4, Sointula Boy 9-10-3, Sea Captain 10-10-2, Armagnac Princess 12-10-2, Don't Forget 10-10-2, Earthstopper 10-10-2, Prince Rowan 8-10-1, Mister Donovan 8-10-1, Prominent King 12-10-0, Another Breeze 9-10-0, Earls Brig 9-10-0.

Fortina's Express 10-10-0, Lettoch 7-10-0, Royal Judgment 11-10-0, Greasepaint 9-9-12, Phil The Fluter 9-9-12, Lean Ar Aghaidh 7-9-11, Skegby 10-9-11, Clash Of The Ash 11-9-10, Straight Jocelyn 12-9-10, Good Crack 7-9-9, Young Driver 7-9-9, Staunton 9-9-8, Silent Valley 11-9-8, Imperial Black 8-9-7, Cawky Hunter 11-9-7, Burnt Oak 11-9-8, Cocida Stand 11-9-5, King Ba Ba 9-9-5, Father Delaney 12-9-5, Plundering 7-9-5, Clayside 10-9-4, Two Swallows 11-9-4, Intergration 10-9-4, Gay Return 9-9-4, Hazy Dawn 9-9-4, Sailor's Return 8-9-3, Carl's Wager 9-9-3, Narvik 11-9-3, Mid Day Gun 10-9-2, Hill Of Slane 89962, Hello Dandy 10-9-2, Donegal Prince 8-9-2, Applalto 10-9-2, Doubtful Venture 8-9-1, Otter Way 10-9-0, Dudie 6-8-13, Broadheath 7-8-2, Kudos 9-8-12, Canton 10-8-11, Daltmore 6-8-10, Lantern Lodge 7-8-10, Clonthturin 10-8-10

Lorentino 7-8-10, Mr Shugg 8-8-9, Macks Friendly 7-8-9, Approaching 13-8-8, Yer Man 9-8-8, Ballymilan 7-8-8, Kumbi 9-8-8, Why Forget 8-8-7, Drops O'Brandy 9-8-6, Crosa 9-8-6, Master Smudge 12-8-5, Greenbank Park 7-8-5, Red Cleric 10-8-4, Ashford 8-8-3, Baron Blakeney 7-8-2, Ballyhampshire 9-7-13, Woodlands Lad 9-7-13, Saunders 10-7-13, Royal Radar 8-7-13, No Lemon 9-7-11, Brave Jack 8-7-10, Little Polveir 7-7-10, Foxbury 10-7-10, Royal Minstrel 9-7-9, Bulgli 11-7-8, Auldand Jack 10-7-6, Reidis 10-7-6, Salkeld 12-7-7, Mr Oryx 11-7-6, Black Rod 7-7-0, Shotang 9-6-12, Castle Warden 7-6-12, Ocean Cruise 9-6-10, Artic Slogan 7-6-9, Polar Express 9-5-12. First acceptance stae: April 10.

Procida following in Zino's footprints

From Desmond Stoneham French Racing Correspondent, Paris

Rain has been a most welcome commodity in France this week as dry weather and frozen mornings have made training difficult at the centres of Chantilly and Maisons-Laffitte. Longchamp starts its important season on Sunday but it is next Friday's meeting at Maisons-Lafitte which will shed most light on French chances in the 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket. The Prix Imprudence and Prix Djebel are considered trials for the first English classics and both races are run over a straight seven furlongs.

Criquette Head, whose stable is now back to a strength of 135 horses following M Jacques Wertheimer's final resistance to change, will saddle Robert Sangster's L'Orangerie for the Imprudence, which will also be contested by the Maurice Zilber-trained Fargaze. A daughter of J O Tobin, L'Orangerie won two of her three races last season and looked decidely useful when taking the Prix Contessina.

Fargaze is officially handicapped a pound better than L'Orangerie, whose stable companion Boreale gave two kilos when beating Zilber's filly a head in the Group III Prix des Reservoirs. Providing they show the necessary form next Friday, both Fargaze and L'Orangerie should turn out for the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket.

The most interesting horse in the Prix Djebel is Procida, who is trained by Francois Boutin for the Greek shipping millionaire Stavros Niarchos. Procida ended 1983 by taking the Group II Criterium de Maisons-Laffitte and Boutin has twice recently used the Djebel as a warm-up prior to the 2,000 Guineas. He was responsible for Nureyev, who was disqualified after winning the classic in 1980, and two years later sent Zino, who managed to keep the prize.

Mourice Zilber may tackle the eveready Epsom Derby with the filly Treizième, who defeated some of the best French colts in last October's Grand Criterium. She will reappear in the Prix Vanteaux.

There is an amazing depth of colts in the stable of Francois Boutin and one I expect to make the headlines during 1984 is Long Mick, although I doubt whether he will contest the Epsom Derby. This fine son of Gay Mecene reappears in the Greffulhe and will possibly end up in the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby). But Boutin is also extremely bullish about Ti King who pulled up with a chipped knee after finishing second to Siberian Express

Another three-year old who looks sure to make the classic grade is the Jacky Sunnington-trained Almeira, but she is another unlikely to race in England. Like Long Mick, she is by the stallion Gay Mecene and Almeira will make her seasonal reappearance in the Vanteaux and have main target of the Prix de Diane Hermès (French Oaks).

Criquette Head will race the Grand Criterium runner-up Truculent in Sunday's Prix de Fontainebleau and this colt will then go on to the Poule d'Essai de Poulains (French 2000 Guineas). From the same stable, Boreale has a programme of the Prix de la Grotte followed by the Poule d'Essai de Pouliches.

Alain de Royer-Dupré has a stable of 150 horses and two-thirds of these belong to the Aga Khan. A top colt from this establishment is Darshaan, who will first be seen in the Prix Greffulhe.

The biggest string at chantilly is controlled by the former jump jocky André Fabré and among his 215 inmates is Siberian Express

DEVON & EXETER

GOING: Good to soft

2.15 HALDON MOOR NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £525: 2m 1f) (18 runners)

1	1030	BOLT THE GATE (CD) D Williams 5-12-0	Mr P Schofield 4
3	000	AFRICAN STAR R Keenor 6-11-4	R Hoare
4	0	ASTROSYN C James 6-11-4	—
7	p	COUNTRYCLASS LADD K Bailey 5-11-4	A Webb
14	03p0	PALMERSTON D Barons 5-11-4	J Frost
15		PINEGROVE BOY J Fox 7-11-4	N Hunter 7
18		SILVER CHORD Mrs J Parsons 6-11-4	—
19	2000	SQUIRE TRELAWNY (B) D Barons 7-11-4	Philip Hobbs
25	00-p0	CROAN RHAPSODY C Roach 7-10-13	B Wright
26	03	FAST LADY N Henderson 5-10-13	—
30	32f0	MISS ABWAH D Scott 5-10-13	J Nolan
31	p0/pp	PARTI–PRISM R Robinson 9-10-13	Mr B Robinson
33	0	PURSTON BALGELLA E Retter 8-10-13	George Knight
35	p00	A BOY NAMED SIOUX S May 4-10-10	S May
36	0	ACTON IRON R Holder 4-10-10	P Richards
40	3004	LYMINSTER J Jenkins 4-10-10	—
42	00	TENDER PET B Palling 4-10-10	C Evans 7
45	9	MISS REPPIN D Barons 4-10-5	P Nicholls

1983: The Ganger Man 4-11-3 R Arnott (11-2) D Elsworth 18 ran.

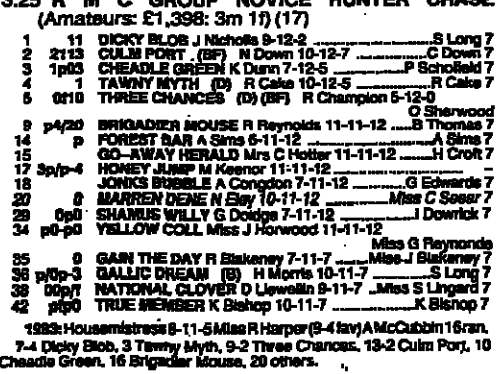
15-8 Fast Lady, 11-4 Lyminster, 4 Bolt The Gate, 7 Miss Abwah, 10 Palmerston, 14 Pinegrove Boy, 16 others.

2.50 WEST OF ENGLAND OPEN HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £733: 2m 6f) (15)

2	1p3p	OWEN GAIL J King 8-12-2	—
3	212f	SIOBHAN'S JOY (B) Mrs C Janaway 9-12-2	G Maundrell
5	34-01	MATT MURPHY Miss H Knight 8-11-12	O Sherwood
6	f910-	GAME BID C Sweeting 10-11-11	S Sweeting 7
9	0p-21	BA BA BELLE R Nicholls 9-11-7	A Walter
11	20-02	BUCK ROYALE Mrs P Tory 11-11-7	M Felton 7
13	U	FILSNORD B Searle 8-11-7	—
16	02f-0	GENERAL ROCK M Stephens 9-11-7	A J Wilson
18	0020/	GOLDEN JEST S Cole 10-11-7	S Andrews 4
19	00-04	HUNTER'S JOY P Doran 12-11-7	A hawkins 7
22	4ff0-	MOON STEP J Weldhen 12-11-7	M Biddick 7
26	0	QUINNER P West 8-11-7	S West 7
27	0-003	SAFFRON PRINCE J F-Hayes 8-11-7	S Sherwood
28	3000	SPRINGFIELDCRACKER Mrs J Ford 10-11-7	M Bosley 7
29	40-pf	ST BRIDE D Williams 6-11-2	P Schofield 7

1983: No corresponding race.

2 Matt Murphy, 3 Ba Ba Belle, 9-2 Siobhan's Joy, 6 Buck Royale, 8 Saffron Prince, 12 Owen Gail, 16 others.



3.25 R M C GROUP NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,398: 3m 1f) (17)

1	11	DICKY BLOB J Nicholls 9-12-2	S Long 7
2	2113	CULM PORT (BF) N Down 10-12-7	C Down 7
3	1p03	CHEADLE GREEN K Dunn 7-12-5	P Schofield 7
4	1	TAWNY MYTH (D) R Cake 10-12-5	R Cake 7
5	0f10	THREE CHANCES (D) (BF) R Champion 5-12-0	O Sherwood
9	p4/20	BRIGADIER MOUSE R Reynolds 11-11-12	B Thomas 7
14	p	FOREST BAR A Sims 6-11-12	A Sims 7
15		GO–AWAY HERALD Mrs C Hotter 11-11-12	H Croft 7
17	3p/p-4	HONEY JUMP M Keenor 11-11-12	—
18		JONKS BUBBLE A Congdon 7-11-12	G Edwards 7
20	8	MARREN DENE N Eley 10-11-12	Miss C Sesar 7
29	0p0	SHAMUS WILLY G Doidge 7-11-12	I Dowrick 7
34	p0-p0	YELLOW COLL Miss J Horwood 11-11-12	Miss G Reynolds
35	0	GAIN THE DAY R Blakeney 7-11-7	Miss J Blakeney 7
36	p/0p-3	GALLIC DREAM (B) H Morris 10-11-7	S Long 7
38	00p/f	NATIONAL CLOVER D Llewellin 9-11-7	Miss S Lingard 7
42	pfp0	TRUE MEMBER K Bishop 10-11-7	K Bishop 7

1983: Housemistress 8-11-5 Miss R Harper (9-4 fav) A McCubbin 16 ran.

7-4 Dicky Blob, 3 Tawny Myth, 9-2 Three Chances, 13-2 Culm Port, 10 Cheadle Green, 16 Brigadier Mouse, 20 others.

4.0 HAWKINS NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (£494: 2m 1f) (18)

1	2384	BLACKBOOSH J Bosley 5-11-4	Mr M Bosley 7
3	0	GODS WILL D O'Neill 5-11-4	M Caswell 7
4	34-40	GONE WITH THE WIND (B) C Hill 5-11-4	Philip Hobbs
7	00-	OLIVER GOLDSMITH W Reed 5-11-4	J Frost
8	0-pp1	ONLY A FOOL R Keenor 5-11-4	C Evans 7
10	0104	SLIP UP F Gray 4-11-3	P Croucher
11	pp	DONNA BELLINA N Mitchell 5-10-13	M Richards 7
14	00f0	MIDDLETON SUE R Hodges 5-10-13	S Earl 7
16	0-000	PRINCESS ALOHA J Fox 5-10-13	N Hunter 7
17	83	PURSTON TRUSTY J Cann 5-10-13	George Knight
18	003	FULL BRIGADE R Howe 4-10-10	G Enright
19	0u	HUTTON GLORY D Tucker 4-10-10	R Millman 4
20	0040	INSPIRED W G Turner 4-10-10	Jessica Turner 7
22	0030	PRINCEWHISTLEFIELD D Wintle 4-10-10	Mrs D Tsakarisiános
24	p	DUSTY DORA R Keenor 4-10-5	C Brown
25	0000	INDIAN ISLE A Chamberlain 4-10-5	A Chamberlain 7
26	0030	KATE THE SHREW (B) C James 4-10-5	—
28	00p	SALTCOTE MOSS ROSE C Popham 4-10-5	J Suthern

1983: Gilded Crescent 5-11-3 J Sampson (14-1) B Urmston 9 ran.

5-2 Full Brigade, 100-30 Only A Fool, 9-2 Blackboosh, 7 Gone With The Wind, 9 Slip Up, 10 Purston Trusty, 14 Princess Aloha, 20 others.

Devon selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Fast Lady. 2.50 Matt Murphy. 3.25 Tawny Myth. 4.0 Full Brigade. 4.30 Perambulate. 5.0 Village Draper.

4.30 MUMFORDS OF EXETER LAND ROVER HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £514: 2m 1f) (18)

1		ANOTHER IMAGE Miss P Martin 9-12-0	Miss P Martin 7
2	11p/p	BARARDEN Mrs R Fell 11-12-0	F Edwards 7
3	0000/	BLUEWATER INN J Cann 8-12-0	C Down 7
4		JO'S FLAMENCO D Crookes 9-12-0	D Crookes 7
5	9000/	LINPAC NORTH E Retter 9-12-0	G Cann
6		NEWHOUSE BOY W Ferens 9-12-0	W Ferens 7
7	3344/	PERAMBULATE D Barons 15-12-0	R Barons 7
8	f/0-	PRECIPICE BOY R Sheppard 10-12-0	G Walch 7
9	4f/p0-	RICHARD G B Lay 11-12-0	P Hosegood 7
11	0p20	SMALL TOM P Sanders 10-12-0	K Herd 7
13		ALICE WOODLARK Mrs J Greed 7-11-9	T Greed 7
14	p-f	AMATOL Miss H Linnett 11-11-9	—
15	0-0p4	BUBBLING SPIRIT D Gillard 7-11-9	G Edwards 7
16		JUST WISHING Mrs J Wonnacott 6-11-9	S Wonnacott 7
17	0000-	MARY FELICITY R Chapman 9-11-9	C Crosthwaite 7
18	0	NETHEREXE LUCY Miss P Neal 8-11-9	S West 7
19		ROARING STYLE P Tylor 9-11-9	I Dowrick 7
21	00/	TEFF Mrs S Trump 11-11-9	R Chamin 7

1983: No corresponding race.

2 Bararden, 7-2 Perambulate, 5 Another Image, 13-2 Small Tom, 8 Bubbling Spirit, 10 Precipice Boy, 14 Alice Woodlark, 16 others.

5.0 HALDON MOOR NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £536: 2m 1f) (18)

1	10p0	GREATEST HITS (B) J Jenkins 7-12-0	K Caplen 7
2	2000	QUITE HOT (CD) N Ayliffe 5-12-0	M Ayliffe 4
3	1	VILLAGE DRAPER F Winter 5-12-0	Mr C Brooks 7
5	100	ATAMAN (B) M Pipe 4-11-6	R Dennis 4
6	120	RHYTHMIC PASTIMES (BF) J Jenkins 4-11-6	Mr S Sherwood
7	9000	BRACKLEY D Barons 6-11-4	—
8	p0p0	CHARLIE THE DANCER W M-Coles 7-11-4	Philip Hobbs
14	00/4f-	PERHAPS LUCKY D Elsworth 7-11-4	R Arnott 7
15	0013	PRINCE'S DRIVE B Palling 6-11-4	C Evans 7
17		SHASTO G Doidge 7-11-4	B Wright
19	80p	THRYLOS A Chamberlain 5-11-4	A Chamberlain 4
20		TUDOR MARK C Luxton 5-11-4	Mr G Edwards 4
23	034-0	CULM VALLEY N Down 8-10-13	Mr C Down 7
26	p0	MAGGIE DEE R Frost 7-10-13	J Frost
28	04p	PYJAMA GAME Mrs E Kennard 7-10-13	P Stone 7
31		WESTCOMBE BELLE H Cross 7-10-13	—
33	033	BANDELERO (B) R Holder 4-10-10	P Richards
44		FLANDERS DREAM Miss P Neal 4-10-5	R Hoare

1983: No corresponding division.

11-8 Village Draper, 7-2 Rhythmic Pastimes, 9-2 Prince's Drive, 7 Bandelero, 10 Quite Hot, 12 Perhaps Lucky, 16 others.

Law Report March 30 1984

Constable's power of arrest

Mohammed v Duke

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Brightman.

[Speeches delivered March 29]

A constable, in exercising his discretion under section 2(4) of the Criminal Law Act 1967 whether or not to arrest a person whom he had reasonable cause to suspect of having committed an arrestable offence, was entitled to take into consideration as a relevant matter the fact that the suspect would be more likely to tell the truth if she were detained for questioning at a police station than if she were questioned at her own home.

The House of Lords so held, dismissing an appeal by Mrs Mariam Holgate-Mohammed from a decision on July 13, 1983 of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Arnold, President and Mr Justice Latey) (*The Times* July 16, 1983; [1983] 3 WLR 598) who allowed an appeal by John Duke, Chief Constable of Hampshire, from an order dated December 20, 1982 by Judge Hampden Inskipp, QC, sitting at Portsmouth County Court who awarded the plaintiff £1,000 damages for wrongful arrest and detention.

Mr Alan Tyrrell, QC, and Mr Robin Belben for the plaintiff; Mr J. B. Mortimer, QC, and Mr Robert Beecroft for the chief constable.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the appeal was in a civil action for false imprisonment brought by the plaintiff against the chief constable and arising out of her arrest without warrant at her home on May 8, 1980 by an officer of the Hampshire Constabulary, Detective Constable Offin, and her subsequent detention at Southsea Police Station for about six hours after which time she was released on police bail under section 38(2) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1952 (now section 43(3) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980). She was later informed by the police that she need not surrender to her bail as no further proceedings would be taken against her.

Their Lordships were not concerned with rights of arrest at common law for it was not disputed that an arrestable offence had been committed, and what Constable Offin was purporting to exercise was the statutory power of arrest without warrant conferred upon him by section 2(4) and (6) of the 1967 Act.

Section 2(6) conferred a right of entry on premises by a constable for the purpose of exercising the power of arrest conferred upon him by section 2(4) which provides: "Where a constable with reasonable cause suspects that an arrestable offence has been committed, he may arrest without warrant anyone whom he, with reasonable cause, suspects to be guilty of the offence."

The word "arrest" in section 2 was a term of art. First, it was to be noted that arrest was a continuing act: it started with the arrester taking a person into his custody, by action or words restraining him from moving anywhere beyond the arrester's control, and it continued until the person so restrained was either released from custody, or having been brought before a magistrate, was remanded in custody by the magistrate's judicial act.

In practice, since the creation of organized police forces during the nineteenth century, an arrested person upon being taken into custody by a constable was brought into a police station and detained there until he was either brought before a magistrate or released whether unconditionally or upon police bail.

In modern conditions any other way of dealing with an arrested person, once he had been taken into custody, would be impracticable; and section 43 of the 1980 Act, providing for grant of bail by the police, was drafted on the assumption that that was what would be done.

Second, it was to be noted that the mere act of taking a person into custody did not constitute an "arrest" unless that person knew, either at the time when he was first taken into custody or as soon thereafter as it was reasonably practicable to inform him, upon what charge or on suspicion of what crime he was being arrested.

There was no suggestion that the plaintiff in the present case when she was arrested at her home by Constable Offin, was not fully informed by him of the offence, burglary of jewelry at a house at which she was residing in December 1979, which he suspected her of having committed.

Very shortly after the burglary some of the jewelry had been sold to a jeweller in Portsmouth but it was not until the end of April 1980 that the victim of the burglary recognized her jewelry in the shop window and informed the police. The jeweller's description of the vendor was thought by the victim to resemble that of her former lodger, the plaintiff.

Section 2(4) of the 1967 Act made it a condition precedent to a constable's power lawfully to arrest a person without warrant, that he should have reasonable cause to suspect that person to be guilty of the arrestable offence in respect of which the arrest was made.

Whether he had reasonable cause was a question of fact for the court to determine. The county court judge who tried the action and who heard and saw the witnesses, held that Constable Offin did have reasonable cause for suspecting the plaintiff to be guilty of burglary.

The Court of Appeal examined a transcript or note of the oral evidence and came to the same conclusion.

So the condition precedent to Constable Offin's power to take the plaintiff into custody and the power of the other constables at the police station to detain her in custody was fulfilled, and since the wording of section 2(4) of the 1967 Act under which he acted was "may arrest without warrant" that left him with an executive discretion whether to arrest her or not.

Since that was an executive discretion expressly conferred by statute upon a public officer, the constable making the arrest, the lawfulness of the way in which he had exercised it in a particular case could not be questioned in any court of law except upon those principles laid down by Lord Greene, Master of the Rolls, in *Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223).

The *Wednesbury* principles were applicable to determining the lawfulness of the exercise of the statutory discretion of a constable under that section, not only in proceedings for judicial review but also for the purpose of founding a cause of action at common law for damages for that species of trespass to the person known as false imprisonment.

Since the judge expressly found that Constable Offin in effecting the initial arrest acted in good faith, the first of the *Wednesbury* principles that the discretion must be exercised in good faith was satisfied.

So his exercise of that power by arresting the plaintiff was lawful unless it could be shown to have been "unreasonable" under the *Wednesbury* principle which required that the exerciser of the discretion must exclude from his consideration matters which were irrelevant to what he had to consider.

In *Hussein v Chong Fook Kam* ([1970] AC 942, 948) Lord Devlin said that suspicion was a state of conjecture or surmise where proof was lacking, and arose at or near the starting point of an investigation of which the obtaining of *prima facie* proof was the end. When such proof had been obtained the police case was complete, it was ready for trial and passed on to its next stage, bringing the suspect before a magistrates' court upon a charge of criminal offence.

The other side of the same coin was where the investigation, although diligently pursued, failed to produce *prima facie* proof which must be in the form of evidence that would be admissible in a court of law. When the police had reached the conclusion that *prima facie* proof of guilt was unlikely to be discovered by further inquiries it was their duty to release the arrested person from custody unconditionally.

In the present case if the plaintiff had in fact committed the offence of which there were reasonable grounds at the time of her arrest for suspecting her to be guilty, the only kind of admissible evidence probative of her guilt would be likely to be procurable would be a confession obtained from the plaintiff herself.

Constable Offin thought that she would be more likely to confess, to what he had reasonable cause to believe to be the truth, if she were arrested and taken for questioning to the police station. Thus the reason why he arrested her was that he held the honest opinion that the police inquiries were likely to be more fruitful in clearing up the case if the plaintiff were compelled to go to the police station to be questioned there.

The judge described the reason for the plaintiff's arrest as being "to subject her to the greater stress and pressure involved in arrest and deprivation of liberty in the belief that if she was going to confess she was more likely to do so in a state of arrest".

However, he went on to find that the questioning to which the plaintiff was subjected at the police station was conducted with complete propriety and that her solicitor who had been sent for at her request and was present for part of the time made no complaint of the arrest, the nature of the questioning or the length of time for which she was detained.

Thus applying *Wednesbury* principles, the question of law to be decided by their Lordships was whether it was a matter which Constable Offin should have excluded from his consideration as irrelevant to the exercise of his statutory power of arrest, that there was a greater likelihood (as he believed) that the plaintiff would respond truthfully to questions about her connexion with or knowledge of the burglary, if she were questioned under arrest at the police station, than if, without arresting her, questions were put to her by Constable Offin at her own home from which she could peremptorily order him to depart at any moment, since his right of entry under section 2(6) of the 1967 Act was dependent upon his intention to arrest her.

There was inevitably the potentiality of conflict between the public interest in preserving the liberty of the individual and the public interest in the detection of crime and the bringing to justice of those who committed it. The police force had been charged with the duty of taking the first steps to promote the latter public interest by inquiring into suspected offences with a view to identifying the perpetrators and obtaining sufficient admissible evidence which would justify their committal for trial.

The compromise which English common and statutory law had evolved for the accommodation of the two rival public interests while those first steps were being taken by the police was twofold:

(1) No person could be arrested without warrant (that is, without the intervention of a judicial process) unless the constable arresting him had reasonable cause to suspect him to be guilty of an arrestable offence; and arrest was the only means by which a person could be compelled against his will to come to or remain in a police station.

(2) A suspect so arrested and detained in custody must be brought before a magistrates' court as soon as practicable, generally within 24 hours, otherwise, save in a serious case, he must be released on bail.

Arrest for the purpose of using the period of detention to dispel or confirm reasonable suspicion by questioning the suspect or seeking further evidence with his assistance was said by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure in England and Wales (Command Paper No 8092) in January 1981 "to be well established as one of the primary purposes of detention upon arrest" and had been given implicit recognition in Rule 1 of the Judges' Rules since 1912. Furthermore, parliamentary recognition for the practice was implicit in section 38(2) of the 1952 Act which was reproduced in section 43(3) of the 1980 Act. So whether or not to arrest the plaintiff and bring her to the police station in order to facilitate the inquiry was a decision that lay within the discretion of Constable Offin to take.

The judge had erred in law in failing to recognize that lawfulness of the arrest and detention based on reasonable suspicion did not depend upon the judge's own views as to whether the arrest was reasonable or not, but upon whether Constable Offin's action in arresting the plaintiff was an exercise of discretion that was *ultra vires* under *Wednesbury* principles because he took into consideration an irrelevant matter.

Lord Keith, Lord Bridge, Lord Brandon and Lord Brightman agreed.

Solicitors: Lovell Son & Pitfield for Mr H. F. E. Mathews, Portsmouth; Theodore Goddard & Co for Mr R. A. Leyland, Winchester.

also on page 26

Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Out-of-the-rut driving from Subaru

The arrival of Subaru's 1800cc GLF Estate coincided with the start of a heavy snowstorm, and a cross country journey through narrow lanes that could spell trouble with drifting snow. I should have thought twice about setting off without the added insurance of Subaru's delightfully simple 4-wheel drive system.

Within a few minutes, however, the snow let up, and the skies cleared. But, to tell the truth I was rather disappointed. I had been looking forward to a real challenge for this latest offering from one of the more enterprizing Japanese manufacturers.

I know from past experience with the marque that its ability to switch on the move from two to four wheel drive at the press of a button is so smooth, that you could be forgiven for disbelieving the light on the instrument panel which informs you that the change has been made.

To put it to the test, I took to a forest road churned up by contracors' heavy trucks. When conditions were at their worst with the front wheels fighting for grip, I pressed the red knob on the automatic transmission lever. (I forgot to tell you it was an automatic, a combination not normally associated with cross country agility). The effect was quite uncanny. With four wheels searching for grip, progress was immediately faster and safer.

The Subaru does have its limitations, however. It is no Land Rover as I discovered when I tried to force it up a rutted hillside. But for the country dweller commuting to his office, the farmer, the fisherman, or any number of others looking for dual purpose transport, it must be an attractive buy.

Another bonus is its simple lines which lend themselves to automatic car washes. A five minute detour on the return journey to the office and the mud splattered car was sparkling.

Subarus are available in Britain in a wide range of saloons and estates in two and four wheel drive forms. However, the more run of the mill two-wheel drive models have little to recommend them over the vast number of similar cars on offer. On the other hand the combination of an estate car layout with four wheel drive "on tap" is very tempting.

The lightweight, all-aluminium engine is not the smoothest or most powerful in its class by any means. Even the manufacturer describes its output of 81 bhp at 5,200 revs as "modest", but its lack of high revving ability lends itself to the needs of off-road travel. It drives a unique transmission layout which includes a torque converter, lock-up which operates in all three forward gears saving petrol by eliminating wasteful converter slip.

The GLF automatic comes complete with power steering and electrically operated windows and door mirrors. I thought the steering was rather too light and skittish with little feel for road conditions, but very much better in rough going.

At £7,998 it has no competitors able to match its combination as a well-equipped road vehicle and an off-road workhorse. As you would expect, with all that extra machinery to drive it is a little thirsty, particularly at speed. Would-be buyers will have to weigh this against their annual mileage and the use they will make of its "go anywhere" capability.



SUBARU 1800 automatic estate: Four-wheel drive 'on tap'

Vital Statistics

Model: 1800cc GLF 4 WD Automatic Estate
Price: £7,998
Engine: 1,781cc horizontally opposed four cylinder
Performance: Maximum speed, 90mph
Official consumption: Urban 26.6mpg; 56mph, 31.6mpg; and 75mph, 22.6mpg.
Length: 14ft
Insurance: Group 3 and 4.

Nova brings back the boot

A full four-seater with a particularly large boot, able to cruise all day at 80 mph, do more than 40 miles per gallon, and still cost only £3,653 has to be an attractive buy. The fact that the Nova one litre two-door saloon is part of the vastly improved Vauxhall-Opel range and one of the few superminis with a genuine old-fashioned boot, only adds to its appeal.

It is all the more disappointing from a British point of view that it is not made in this country. The car is Spanish made as with the rest of the 11-strong Nova range of hatchbacks and saloons helping the General Motors Company challenge Austin Rover for second place in the British market. But if it continues to win sales at the rate achieved since it arrived here a year ago, GM will have to contemplate at least token assembly in Britain within the next two years, or face renewed hostility from the unions.

Manufacturers are often reluctant to make the basic model in any range available for road testing. In fact, they are sometimes excluded from press fleets on the premise that if they are not available, journalists will accept a more fully equipped and more expensive version.

It must be said that minimally equipped road test cars do not leave the best impression of that model's potential. But other manufacturers should follow Vauxhall's example and trust the journalists to take this into account when preparing his assessment. After all, today's bottom-of-the-range cars bear no resemblance to the stripped out skeletons of a few years ago.

There were a number of omissions on the Nova such as a passenger's door mirror, a trip on the milometer, a dipping rear view mirror, and front door pockets. But these were minor irritants.

Of more substance was the intrusive noise of the eager little engine accentuated by the reduced level of sound proofing material used compared with more expensive versions. And of course, having a four speed gearbox instead of five.

At motorway speeds, the basic Nova is very busy. Some of my passengers thought the engine note "rather sporty" but then they were only with me for short journeys. I felt that the absence of a long legged fifth gear and the much higher reves required in fourth, made the engine sound thrashy and tiring.

On the other hand the brakes were fast and smooth requiring only light pressure to provide reassuring stopping power at all speeds. The clutch was particularly light, and this, together with similar brakes, should be popular with those women who insist on wearing high heeled shoes to drive, and have difficulty in obtaining sufficient leverage. Unfortunately, the accelerator of this particular car was noticeably heavy.

The Nova salooon is the only supermini I know that will take two large-sized golf bags laid one on top of the other across the boot, and still leave room for two caddie carts and clothing bags behind them. You might get away with that amount of luggage in a hatchback if you removed the parcel shelf and piled it roof high. However, the result would be very tempting to thieves.

Vital Statistics

Model: Nova one litre saloon
Price: £3,653
Engine: 993 cc, 4 cylinder
Performance: Max. speed 87 mph, 0 to 62 mph 19·5 seconds
Official consumption: Urban, 37·7 mpg; 56 mph 57·6; 75 mph 42·8 mpg.
Length: 13ft
Insurance: Group 2.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM £3.25 a line (minimum 3 lines)

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200 Gray's Inn Road
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or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to 01-837 3311 or 01 837 3333

Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00am and 12.00noon (837 3333 only). For publication the following day phone by 1.30pm.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc. on Court and Social Page. £5 a line. 01-837 1234 ext 7714

Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

Most other classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone. The deadline is 6.00pm 2 days prior to publication (i.e. 5.00 pm Monday for Wednesday). Should you wish to send an advertisement in writing please include your daytime 'phone number

For thou, O God, hast heard my vows, thou hast given me the heritage of those that fear thy name Psalm 61. 5

BIRTHS

BELK – on March 28th to Ruth and Christopher, a son (Peter Thomas Christopher) brother to Helen Timothy and Catriona

BEVAN – on March 20th to Anne and John, a son Charles Richard, a brother for Camilla

COMPTON.–On March 28 at St Matilda's Hospital, Hong Kong, to Caroline (nee Close-Smith) and Jonathan, a daughter (Emily Glen May)

GODDARD – On March 19th at the ...

DEATHS

WHEELER – on 27th March in hospital, Cecily Edith Wheeler, beloved mother of Erica, Johnb and Cynthia and a very dear friend of Dorothea Pullen of Bentworth. Cremation private, family flowers only but if wished donations to R.U.K.B.A., c/o John Steel & Son Ltd, Chesil House, Winchester (Telephone 0962 63195). Thanksgiving service at a later date.

WHITTY – on 28th March in Athens, Kenneth Tarlton aged 44, of the British Council, beloved husband of Susannah, father of Christopher, Robert, James and David, younger son of the late Lt Col. J.H.H. Whitty D.S.O., M.C., and Lady Sheila Coldstream brother of Hamlyn. Funeral arrangements to be announced.

IN MEMORIAM

GWINN, VIOLET MINNIE AGNES, who passed on 31 March, 1983 in Peterborough R.I.P. Heart felt thanks to loyal friends who have promised Holy Masses in Athens, Heraklion, London, New York, Paris and Rome. Most beloved mother – painfully missed but patiently awaiting our joyous reunion. Johnny and Ted

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BARNARD. – The service of thanksgiving for the life and ministry of Dorothy Elizabeth Barnard, who died on March 23rd, will take place on Saturday, April 7th at 11.30am, in the Parish Church of St John The Evangelist, Hinton Martel Wimborne, Dorset

TALLIS (Mackay). A memorial service for Gillian Tallis will be held at St Michaels Church, Clifton, Hampden, Oxon on Thursday, 12th April at 2.30 pm.

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE ENGLISH FUSTIAN MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED
(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

NOTICE is hereby given that the Creditors of the above-named Company are required on or before the 30th day of April 1984 to send their names and addresses, with particulars of their Debts or Claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Henry Arthur Butt of York House, York Street, Manchester M2 4WS the Liquidator of the said Company, and if so required by notice in writing by the said Liquidator are by their Solicitors or personally to come in and prove their said Debts or Claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this day of 1984.
Liquidator.

The Companies Act, 1948
In the matter of NYNWOOD ARTS Limited by order of the High Court of Justice dated the 17th day of February 1984.
I, GEORGE ALBERT AUGER of Messrs. Sloy, Hayward and Partners, 44 Baker Street, London, W.1., have been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company. All debts and claims should be sent to me.
Dated this 23rd day of March 1984
G A AUGER
Liquidator.

PROTEL COMPUTER SYSTEMS Limited
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company, will be held at The Clifton Ford Hotel situated at Welbeck Street, London W1 on Friday the 13th day of April 1984 at 12.00 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295 ...

General

MOTOR CARS

Continued from page 24

LOTUS ESPRIT TURBO Black with champagne leather interior, low mileage, BBS wheels, side skirts £9,650. 0705 813505.

LOTUS TURBO ESPRIT 1984, Unreg John Player (Blk & Gld). No mileage. £21,000 ono. Tel 0702 616179

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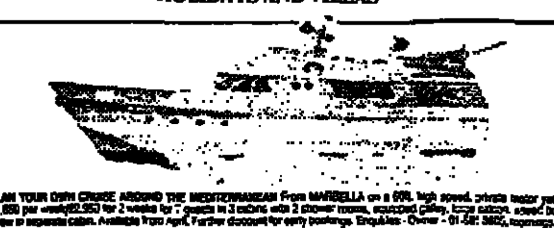
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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax.

6.30 Breakfast Time with Selina Scott and Mike Smith. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 6.55; a review of thhe morning papers at 7.18 and 8.18; gardening tips between 7.30 and 7.45; pop music news between 7.45 and 8.00; horoscopes at 8.33; cooking hints between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 Food and Drink. With Henry Kelly and Susan Grossman on a day trip to Dunkirk. (Shown yesterday) 9.30 Ceefax. 10.30 Play School, presented by Chloe Ashcroft (r). 10.55 Ceefax.

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Michael Cole. The weather prospects from Bill Giles 12.57 Regional News (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles) 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Lesley Bremness and Peter Seabrook put the finishing touches to the herb garden started last autumn 1.45 Bagpus (r).

2.00 In the Making. A profile of potter Tessa Fuchs at her studio in Kingston upon Thames where her designs mirror her love of the countryside (r) 2.20 Racing from Aintree. Coverage of two races from the card of the second day of the Aintree Grand National Meeting – the Holiday Inn International Handicap 'Chase (2.35); and the Liverpool Hurdle (3.10). Coverage of the next two races continues on BBC 2.

3.30 Cartoons 3.48 regional news (not London) 3.50 Magic Roundabout (r) 3.55 Play School, presented by Sheelagh Gilbey (r) 4.20 The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse (r) 4.25 Jackanory. Penelope Wilton reads part five of Carbonel, by Barbara Sleigh 4.40 Playhouse: The Magic of Monday, by Kay McManus (r) 5.10 Captain Zep – Space Detective. In case four he is sent on holiday to the planet Sauria where there are a series of deadly explosions.

5.40 Sixty Minutes includes news read by Jan Leeming at 5.40.

6.40 Doctor Who. Colin Baker in the final part of The Twin Dilemma (Ceefax titles page 170).

7.05 Film: The Satan Bug (1965) starring George Maharis, Dana Andrews, Richard Basehart and Anne Francis. Thriller based on the Alistair MacLean story about a flask, stolen from a top secret research installation in the California desert, containing a virus which, if exposed to air, could eventually lead to the destruction of the Earth. Directed by John Sturges.

9.00 News with John Humphrys.

9.25 Starsky and Hutch. The two policemen discover, when they report for duty, that they have been reported murdered (r).

10.35 Potter. Part three of the seven programme comedy series, written by Roy Clark, about an interfering retired busybody with time on his hands.

11.05 News headlines and weather.

11.10 Film: The Strange Love of Martha Ivers* (1946) starring Barbara Stanwyck as the wealthy industrialist with a past which threatens to be made public when an old playmate returns to town. Kirk Douglas makes his film acting debut as Walter O'Neil. Directed by Lewis Milestone. Ends as 1.10.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain with Anna Diamond and John Stapleton. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; fishing news at 6.45; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; guest of the day at 7.40; pop video at 7.55; Jeni Barnett's postbag at 8.10; television highlights at 8.35; Stub it Out at 8.40; consumer affairs at 9.03.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines 9.30 For Schools: taking care of the body 9.47 The coronation of Queen Elizabeth II 10.09 Emotional and social development in adolescence 10.26 How to describe things accurately 10.43 Ways of avoiding unemployment 11.05 War reporting 11.22 Music and magic 11.39 History in action: The summer of 1968.

12.00 Jamie and the Magic Torch find a treasure map (r) 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets 12.30 Lifeskills. Asserting your own rights and needs.

1.00 News with Leonard Parkin 1.20 Thames news 1.30 About Britain. Kenneth Barton, director of Hampshire Museum Service, walks around some of the medieval castles of the Channel Islands.

2.00 Just Our Luck. 2.30 Falcon Crest. 3.30 Sons and Daughters.

4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10 4.20 Batfink. 4.25 Emu's World. Rod Hull in another escapade with his erratic pet 4.50 The Fantastic Adventure of Mr Rossi 5.15 The Young Doctors.

5.45 News 6.00 The 6 O'Clock Show presented by Michael Aspel.

7.00 The Zodiac Game. Astrology quiz with contestants aided and abetted by celebrities Les Dennis, Bella Emberg, Dustin Gee and Suzi Quatro. The show is introduced by Tom O'Connor.

7.30 Hardcastle and McCormick. The old lag and the retired judge chase down to a Caribbean island in order to put paid to a gun-running business.

8.30 The Other 'Arf. A big weekend in the lives of Lorraine and Charles when the first paying guests are due to stay at the stately home. Starring Lorraine Chase and John Standing (Oracle titles page 170).

9.00 Shroud for a Nightingale. Episode four (of five) and Inspector Dalgleish with no facts to build on uses his instinct to trap the noisome surgeon, Stephen Courtney-Briggs into lying. But more valuable assistance comes from a most unlikely source (Oracle titles page 170).

10.00 News followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 The London Programme. Today the Arts Council announces new spending cuts what effect will this have on the capital's cultural life. The Arts Council chairman Sir William Rees-Mogg is interviewed.

11.00 Bosom Buddies.

11.30 South of Watford. Ben Elton casts a wry eye over Londoners' lifestyles.

12.00 Bizarre. Comedy series starring John Byner.

12.30 Dragnet* Crime series starring Jack Webb, followed by Night Thoughts.



Tilly Vosburgh in Raspberry (BBC2, 10.00 pm)

CHOICE

● Past experience suggests that RASPBERRY (BBC 2, 10.00pm) will not appeal to Barbara Cartland or commend itself to Mary Whitehouse. It is its preoccupation with the purely mechanical side of love-making that will distress the one, and its totally uninhibited sex talk that will displease the other. There is, indeed, only one moment of tenderness in the whole of Tony Marchant's play about two young women in a hospital ward – one of them is to have an operation to terminate a pregnancy, and the other an operation to make pregnancy possible – and that comes in the scene in which it emerges that, far from being positioned, as we had been led to believe, at opposite ends of the gynaecological spectrum, they are linked by the common experience of casual sex. It is inconceivable that Raspberry will be transmitted without a warning that it could upset some viewers and offend others. And it would be as pointless to condemn it for its explicitness about biology as it would have been to condemn Thomas Ellice's play *Going Gently* for its bluntness about cancer. If I have given the impression that *Raspberry* is deadly serious, I must tell you that, like *Going Gently*, it has a vein of perverse humour.

● THE LADYKILLERS (BBC 2, 5.40pm) has a sinister element in it which sets it apart from the mainstream of quintessential Ealing comedy, although that distinctive Ealing mixture of British eccentricity and charm gurgles through its veins. Memorable for Alec Guinness's ghastly Professor Marcus and for Katie Johnson's sweet and blinkered landlady.

● Betty Davies's dramatization of Dickens's OUR MUTUAL FRIEND (episode one is repeated on Radio 4, at 3.00pm) has got off to a masterly start. It has effortlessly cleared two early hurdles: the brilliantly but diffusely written chapter on the Veneerings' supper party for the bran'-new friends, and that no less diffuse matter of Old Harmon's will. The novel's obsessional message about the corrosive effects of money-grubbing is already coming over loud and clear in Jane Morgan's atmospherically correct production. **Peter Davalle**

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Maths Methods: Resonance. Damping. 6.30 Home: Castle or Cage? 1. 6.55 A Question of Control. 7.20 A Feel for Space. 7.45 Electrolytic Chlorine Cells. Ends at 8.10.

9.00 Ceefax.

9.08 Daytime on Two: Macromolecules. 9.30 Science: Alternative energy. 9.52 Part ten of the Boy from Space. 10.15 Maths: Fill it up. 10.38 Ceefax. 11.00 History: roads and waterways. 11.22 Religious education: Man's dominion. 11.44 The modern office. 12.05 Making the most of the micro. 12.30 A guide to the world of robotics. 12.55 Micros in schools. 1.20 Ceefax. 1.38 Scotland: salmon. 2.01 What it is like to be old. 2.30 English: Speak for yourself (ends at 2.50).

3.00 Ceefax.

3.25 Racing from Aintree. Live coverage of the Perrier Jouet Champagne Cup 'Chase (3.45); and the Sporting Life Weekender 'Chase (4.20).

4.35 Ceefax.

5.05 Weekend Outlook. A preview of the Open University programmes coming.

5.10 Language Development. David Crystal analyses the way children use connective words.

5.35 News summary with subtitles.

5.40 Film: The Ladykillers (1955) starring Alec Guinness as the bogus professor Marcus who rents a room from the kind Mrs Wilberforce, ostensibly as a meeting place for his music society, but in fact as a cover for the planning of a robbery. Directed by Alexander Mackendrick (see Choice).

7.05 ORS 84. The last programme in the series devoted to electronic music.

7.45 The World About Us. A documentary about the work done by the Harbour Branch Foundation in Florida which plumbs the ocean depths examining the sea bed some 2,000 feet below the surface.

8.35 Gardeners' World from Barnsdale where Geoff Hamilton starts soft fruit and vegetables in his organic garden.

9.00 M*A*S*H Tempers rise with the temperature when alcohol is banned during a heat wave.

9.25 Whicker! Money and big business are the themes and the guests are Bob Beckman, an investment analyst; female executive of the year, Jean Denton; and Clive Thornton, chief executive of Mirror Group Newspapers.

10.00 Raspberry (see Choice).

10.45 Newsnight.

11.30 Whistle Test with The Chevalier Brothers; Blancmange plus a nostalgic look back at 20 years of pirate radio. Ends at 12.15.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Wayne and Shuster. The Canadian comics with a look at the humorous side of life.

5.30 The Tube. Presented by Jools Holland and Leslie Ash. This week's edition of the rock magazine includes a profile of the most successful independent British recording company, Island Records, and includes the company's managing director, Chris Blackwell, giving his first major television interview. The item also includes footage of some of the label's best known performers including Black Uhuru, Robert Palmer and John Martin plus archive material featuring Free, Bob Marley, Steve Winwood, Roxy Music and Grace Jones. The programme's studio guests include former Pink Floyd star David Gilmour playing tracks from his new solo album.

7.00 Channel Four News includes an analysis by Stephen Phillips of today's announcement by the Arts Council of the proposed grant cuts.

7.30 Right to Reply Critics Richard Last and Hilary Kingsley justify their slating of The Price is Right.

8.00 A Week in Politics presented by John Barry. No Cheap Fix for Nato is the title of a special investigation into new thinking on defence.

8.40 What the Papers Say. Freelance journalist, Brian Inglis, casts a critical eye over what has been written in Fleet Street during the past seven days.

9.00 It Takes a Worried Man. Philip Roath decides to turn over a new leaf and begin to think positively. But when he tells his psychiatrist that he can do without his services the psychiatrist admits that he uses Roath's visits as cure for his own depressions (r).

9.30 The Lady is a Tramp. An eccentric millionaire joins the two lady tramps to see if he can be liked for himself and not just for his money.

10.00 Cheers. Comedy series set in a Boston bar.

10.35 Well Being presented by Pam Armstrong and Dr Simon Smail. All in the Mind demonstrates a variety of therapies – laying on of hands; homoeopathy; a patient with a snake phobia is cured by a bogus piece of equipment; and a lady with asthma is hypnotized by her GP.

11.20 Once on a Lifetime. Highlights from Talking Heads's concert at Wembley, mixed with television a film images from around the world.

12.35 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Prayer. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Your Letters. 8.57 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs: "Honest" Ed Mirvish, of the Old Vic (r).†
9.45 Feedback.
10.00 News; Science Now.
10.30 Morning Story: "A Special Relationship" by Frank Tuohy.
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News; Travel; Three Wise Guys and One of Two Dolls. The story of Frank Loesser's musical comedy, Guys and Dolls, told by Robert Cushman.
11.48 Natural Selection. Spawning time on the Great Barrier Reef.
12.00 News; You and Yours.
12.27 My Music. Music panel game.† 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Manchester. Lesley Judd interviews Geoff Love, the bandleader, arranger and composer.
3.00 News; Our Mutual Friend by Charles Dickens, dramatized in ten parts. Part one (r).†
4.00 News; Just After Four. Edward Downes in the opera house.
4.10 War and Peace in Our Time. Geoffrey Stern examines the persistence of warfare – "Is Peace Possible?"
4.40 Story Time: "Woman and Puppet" by Pierre Louys (7).
5.00 PM: News magazine. 5.50 Shipping forecast. 5.55 Weather.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News.
6.30 Going Places. The world of transport and travel.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard.†
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions? from Dublin, with Norman St John-Stevas, Dr John A. Cunningham, Ruairi Quinn, and Prof John A. Murphy.
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. A discussion on the Arts Council report, published today. Arts Council officials, author Michael Holroyd, and theatre administrator Robert Scott, take part in this extended edition.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: "The Cone-Gatherers" by Robin Jenkins (10). Read by Tom Fleming.
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.00 Today in Parliament.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Week Ending. Satirical review. 12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close. Shipping.
ENGLAND VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools. 1.55-2.00 *Listening Corner*. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4. 12.30-1.10 Schools Night-time Broadcasting.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Purcell's incidental music to Amphitryon (Nelson/Hill/Keyte/Academy Ancient Music), Fauré's Fantaisie Op 79 (Debost/Collard); Copland's ballet suite Appalachian Spring.† 8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert; part two. Haydn's String Quartet Op 71 No 1; Thomas Campion's Now hath Flora robbed her bowers, Lupo's Shows and nightly revels, and Giles's Triumph now with joy and mirth (Kirkby, soprano); and Britten's Suite on English folk tunes: A time there was.† 9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Schubert. Fantasy in C (Wanderer) played by Richter; also Gesang der Geister uber den Wassern; and overture and excerpts from Act 2 of Alfonso and Estrella (Mathis/Schreier).†
10.00 Brahms Quartets: Gabrieli String Quartet play the Op 51 No 1.†
10.35 Bournemouth Sinfonietta: with Howard Nelson (flute) and Bridget Alexander (cor anglais). Haydn's Symph No 60; Honegger's Concerto da Camera for flute, cor anglais and orch; and Roussel's symphonic fragments; The Spider's Banquet.†
11.40 Liszt and Cornelius: Liszt's Wie singt die Lerche schon; Wieder mocht ich dir begegnen; and Cornelius's Brautlieder (Delia Fletcher, soprano, with Keith Swallow, piano).†
12.05 BBC Philharmonic Orch: with Ralph Kirshbaum (cello). Part one. Smetana's overture The Bartered Bride; and Dvorak's Cello Concerto.† 1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents.
1.20 Concert; part two. Rachmaninov's Symph No 1.†
2.10 Spanish Piano Music: recital by Peter Wallfisch.†
2.50 Late Mozart on Early Instruments: Academy of Ancient Music play the Symph No 39.†
3.25 Erich Gruenberg: Bach's Violin Partita in D minor BMV 1004.†
4.00 Choral Evensong: from Hereford Cathedral.† 4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.30 Music for Guitar: Various duettists play works by Scarlatti, Solar, Granados, Leo Brouwer and trad arr Dalz.†
7.00 Haydn: Concertgebouw Orch/Haitink play the Symph No 104.
7.30 The Consort of Musicke: A two-part concert from Birmingham. Part one – Italian madrigals. The composers are Massocchi, Caccini, Marenzio and Monteverdi.†
8.05 Father to Son: The relationship between Edmund Gosse and his father, as revealed in their letters.
8.25 The Consort of Musicke: part two. English madrigals, including works by Wilbye, Ravenscroft, Weelkes, Jeffryes, Vautor, William Lawes, and Ward.†
9.10 The Battle of Brunanburgh: Julian Glover reads Michael Alexander's translation of this heroic poem from the Anglo-Saxon.
9.15 Groups in a Landscape: Performances on record of Debussy's Jeux. Stockhausen's Gruppen; and Scriabin's Prometheus. The music is linked by Adrian Jack, Music Director of the Institute of Contemporary Arts.†
10.35 Piano Trios: Beethoven's Trio movement in B flat major, and Mendelssohn's Trio in D minor Op 49. Played by the Raphael Trio.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.
VHF only: Open University: 6.15am-6.55; and 11.20pm-12.00.

Radio 2

4.00am Colin Berry†. 5.30 Ray Moore†. 7.30 Terry Wogan† incl. 8.31 Racing. 10.00 Jimmy Young†. 12.00pm Steve Jones† incl. 1.05 Sport. 2.00 Gloria Hunniford† incl. 2.02; 3.02 Sport 3.10 Aintree Racing: Liverpool Hurdle. 3.30 Music All The Way†. 4.00 David Hamilton† incl. 4.02; 5.05 Sport. 6.00 John Dunn† with Dirk Bogarde, incl. 6.02 Sport 6.45 Sport (mf only). 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night from the Fairfield Hall, Croydon†. 9.30 Old Stagers: Jack Hulbert and Cicely Courtneidge. 9.55 Sport. 10.00 Vince Hill's Solid Gold Music Show†. 10.30 Sounds of the South West with Johnny Morris 4: Somerset and Wiltshire. 11.00 Stuart Hall (stereo from midnight). 1.00 Peter Dickson†. 3.00-4.00 Night Owls†.

Radio 1

6.00am Mark Page. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Gary Davies, incl. 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Adrian John. 4.30 Select-a-Disc with Janice Long. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance (stereo from 10.00). VHF RADIOS 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00 With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 A Night to Remember. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Rock Back the Clock. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Billy Budd. 8.30 Women of The World. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 The World Turned Upside Down. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four hours. 8.30 Sherlock Holmes. 9.00 Network U.K. 9.15 Grand National Preview. 9.30 The Bach Family. 9.45 Billy Budd. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 The Doctors. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Mutiny of HMS Bounty. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

BBC 1 WALES 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.48-3.50 News. 5.55 Wales Today. 9.25-10.15 Wales! Wales? 10.15.-10.30 Sportfolio. 10.30-11.30 Starsky and Hutch. 11.40-11.41 News. 11.41-1.18am Film: 'Pursued' (1947) (Robert Mitchum). SCOTLAND 12.55-1.00pm News. 5.55 Scotland. 9.25-9.55 Agenda. 9.55-10.33 Friday night with Dougie Donnelly. 10.33 News. 10.35-11.25 Boxing S.A.B.A. Championships. 11.25-1.5am Film: 'A day in the death of Joe Egg' (1971) (Alan Bates, Janet Suzman). NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.48-3.50 News. 5.55 Scene around Six. 10.35-11.5 Spotlight. 11.5-11.10 News headlines. 11.10-12.50am Film: 'Pursued' (1947) (Robert Mitchum). 12.50 Northern Ireland News. ENGLAND North East only: 12.00-12.30am North Country. 5.55pm (Part of Sixty Minutes). 10.35 East Weekend. Midlands - Midlands Tonight. North - Jazz at the Leadmill. North East - Coast to Coast. North West - Where do we go from here? South - Moments. South West - South West Seasons (advice on gardening). West - Village School. 1.10am Close.

S4C 2.00 Ffenestri. 2.20 Stori Sbri. 2.35 Hyn O Fyd. 2.55 Jack's Game. 3.20 The Making of Britain. 3.50 ... Like other Children. 4.15 Chips Comic. 4.45 Lan Lofft. 5.00 Sbri Celwydd Golau. 5.30 The Tube. 7.00 Taro Tant. 8.00 Pobol Y Cwm 29. 8.30 Y Byd Yn El Le Penawdau Newyddion/News Headlines. 9.45 Soap. 10.15 CanWio. 10.45 Winter Sunlight. 11.45 The Lady is a Tramp. 12.15 Diwedd/Close.

CHANNEL As London except: 12.30 Crafts made simple. 1.20 Channel News. 2.00 Film: The Beachcomber. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55 What's where. 10.34 In Camera. 11.50 Film: Frankenstein and the monster from hell. 12.45 News and Weather in French, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30 Crafts Made Simple. 1.00 News at One. 1.20 Central News. 1.30 Film: Dr. Ehrlich's Magic Bullet (Edward G Robinson)". 5.15 The Zodiac Game. 5.45 News. 6.00 Central News. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00 In Loving Memory. 10.35 The Sweeney. 11.35 Film: The Asphyx (1973) (Robert Powell). 1.15 Closedown.

HTV WEST As London except: 12.30-1.00 Crafts made simple. 1.20 HTV News. 2.00 Film: Suspect (Ian Bannen). 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi. 6.00 HTV News. 6.30-7.00 Problems. 7.30-8.30 The Fall Guy. 10.30 The Good Neighbour Show. 11.00 Wells -T City Limits. 11.30 Star Parade. 12.40 Weather and Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 11.05-11.20 About Wales. 6.00-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Showbizz. 11.00-11.30 Snooker.

STV As London except: 12.30-1.00 Crafts made Simple. 1.20-1.30 Scottish News. 2.00- 4.00 Film: Tiger Bay' (Hayley Mills). 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 10.35 Ways and Means. 11.05 Late Call. 11.10 Making a Living. 11.40 Curling. 12.40 Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 12.30-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 Anglia News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Topper Takes a Trip" (Constance Bennett). 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Cross Section. 11.05 Film: If . . . (Malcolm McDowell). 1.05 Jancis Harvey Sings, Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 12.30 Crafts Made Simple. 1.00 News at One. 1.20 Border News. 2.00 Film: Four Sided Triangle (Barbara Payton). 3.30 The Young Doctors. 5.15 Different Strokes. 6.00 Lookaround Friday. 6.30 Look Who's Talking. 11.35 Curling. 12.35 News Summary. 12.38 Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30-1.00 Crafts made Simple. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 On the Market. 2.00 Crown Court. 2.30 About Britain. 3.00-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 The Zodiac Game. 6.00 Granada Reports News. 6.05 Weekend. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00-8.30 In Loving Memory. 10.30 9 to 5. 11.00 Rugby League: Widnes v Fulham. 11.55 Film: The Power and the Passion (Vince Edwards). 1.45 Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25 The Day ahead. 12.30 Crafts made simple. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.00 Film: Seven Days to Noon" (Barry Jones). 3.30 The Young Doctors. 3.58-4.00 Ulster News. 5.15 Happy Days. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.45 Advice. 7.30 The Irish RM. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 The Race is on. 11.05 Magnum. 12.00 News.

TVS As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 Farming Brief. 12.30-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20 TVS News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 About Britain. 2.10 Film: Doctor at Sea (Dirk Bogarde). 3.45 Sportsbreak. 3.50-4.00 A-Z. 5.15-5.45 Take the High Road. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30 The Friday Sportshow. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00-8.30 The Zodiac Game. 10.30 Newhart. 11.00 Showcase. 11.15 Film: Dr Phibes Rises Again. (Vincent Price). 12.55 Company, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: starts 9.25 First Thing. 12.30 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20 North News. 1.30 About Britain. 2.00 Strange But True. 2.30 Falcon Crest. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 5.15 Survival. 6.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Country Focus. 11.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend (Olivia Newton John). 12.30 News headlines and weather. 12.35 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 Weather. 12.30-1.00 Crafts made Simple. 1.20-1.30 Calendar News. 2.00-3.30 Grand National Night" (Nigel Patrick). 5.15-5.45 The Zodiac Game. 6.00 Calendar. 7.00 Fall Guy. 8.00-8.30 In Loving Memory. 10.30 Talking of Sport. 11.00 Rugby League: Widnes v Fulham. 11.55 Mannix. 12.50 Closedown.

TSW As London except: 12.30-1.00 *Crafts Made Simple*. 1.00-1.20 TSW News Headlines. 2.00-3.30 Film: The Beachcomber (Donald Sinden). 3.57-4.00 Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthdays. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.35 Sidmouth Folk Festival. 11.05 Film: Frankenstein and the Monster From Hell. 12.45 Postscript. 12.50 Weather, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 9.25-9.30 North East News. 12.30 Crafts made simple. 1.20-1.30 North East News. 2.00 Film: "Jet Storm" (Richard Attenborough). 5.15 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 The Zodiac Game. 6.30 Northern Life. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00 In Loving Memory. 10.32 Film: "Grip of the Strangler"*. 11.40 Portrait of a Legend (Lionel Ritchie). 12.10 Christian Calendar. 12.15 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Police hold 383 in protest violence

Continued from page 1

One of themadmitted he had not been able to recruit many of his colleagues to the cause and he preferred to remain anonymous for fear of losing business.

The Bank of England's armoured main doors, normally open to visitors, were locked, and customers were ushered through a side entrance. Special surveillance cameras were mounted on scaffolding on the roof.

Police tried to keep a low profile, moving groups from one place to another and ordering banners and placards to be taken down.

The worst disruption came during the morning peak hour when some demonstrators rode bicycles into the heart of the traffic and others lay in the road.

Most of the arrests were for obstruction, although several people will face criminal damage charges. Those arrested were bailed to appear before Guildhall magistrates.

Inside the Greenhouse, a champagne bar behind the Royal Exchange, bankers and brokers looked through a smoked glass window at demonstrators putting on an impromptu musical performance with flutes and drums.

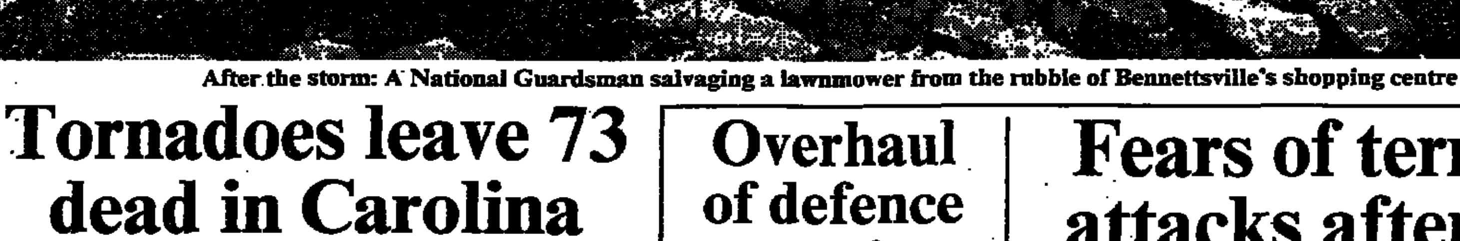
No single group claimed responsibility for the City demonstration, which was vastly more impressive than a similar protest last October.

The marchers who assembled near the British Museum to march towards County Hall, led at one stage by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Opposition leader, caused fewer problems for police, but more annoyance to motorists, many of whom had spent much of the previous day in traffic jams because of the London Transport employees' strike.

● Government policies for local councils were part of a "very, very serious assault on democracy" Mr Neil Kinnock said when he addressed the marchers (Hugh Clayton writes).

That was one of two themes used by speakers at rallies organized by unions in local government to protest at proposals to fix rate ceilings for some Labour councils and abolish others.

The other theme was that the Government's plans had almost no support outside the Conservative Party and that they aroused deep misgivings inside it.



After the storm: A National Guardsman salvaging a lawnmower from the rubble of Bennettsville's shopping centre

Tornadoes leave 73 dead in Carolina

Fayetteville, North Carolina. (Reuter and AP) – At least 73 people died and hundreds were injured when 24 tornadoes hit North and South Carolina.

Thousands more were made homeless by the storm which brought down shops, wrecked houses, uprooted trees and cut power supplies in many areas on Wednesday night.

In North Carolina, where 59 people are known to have died, Governor James Hunt said he would try to have the eastern part of the state declared a disaster area. After touring devastated areas in a helicopter he told reporters: "It is a horrible, horrible situation. It is beyond belief."

The governors of both Carolinas sent National Guardsmen to keep order and help the rescue efforts. Some storm-damaged areas remained without power yesterday. Officials feared the death toll would rise as rescue crews and National Guardsmen cleared rubble.

The storm first hit South Carolina, where 14 are reported dead, and picked up speed before it tore through North Carolina.

In Bennettsville, South Carolina, an entire shopping centre was brought down by the storm. Seven people were killed and seven are still missing. Some looting was reported from the town and a curfew was imposed.

The small Carolina town of Red Springs took the full force of the tornadoes. Local police said whole buildings had disappeared.

"Some buildings just aren't there any more. No buildings, no nothing", Mr Luther Haggins, the police chief of Red Springs said.

The devastated areas were overcast and calm yesterday as the storm swept north-east along the coast.

High tides whipped by the storm caused flooding in casinos at the gambling centre of Atlantic City, New Jersey. An even higher tide was expected last night. Only emergency traffic was allowed on the roads.

Overhaul of defence security

Continued from page 1

in the process of adopting a practice used by the CIA known as "neighbourhood inquiries". That involves an examination of the background of an intelligence official by Whitehall investigating officers in which neighbours and acquaintances are asked questions about the individual's character and social habits.

Security officials in MI5, in the secret intelligence service, MI6, and the Government Communications Headquarters have already started using the neighbourhood inquiry technique as a part of their positive vetting procedure.

In the past, only character referees nominated by the official under investigation were interviewed although something comparable to neighbourhood inquiries has been applied to members of the armed forces, for example those engaged in the operating of the nuclear deterrent.

Fears of terrorist attacks after tour

Continued from page 1

decided to permit the Queen to follow her own inclination and press ahead, non-British diplomats in the Jordanian capital were convinced that the Abu Nidal gang, which is thought to have fewer than 100 hardcore members, would have to hit back to save face.

British diplomats based in Jordan are known to be worried about their own security. But outside observers believe that, because of the massive security here, further attacks may be aimed at softer British targets in such places as Athens or Rome.

The Queen did not refer publicly to the assassination during her engagements yesterday. But Mr Michael Shea, her press secretary, was questioned repeatedly by British reporters, and disclosed that the Queen had learnt about the killing from the review of British papers telexed from London.

Her host, King Husain, who yesterday drove her to Jordan's most historic site, the ancient sandstone city of Petra, was himself asked about his views on the attack when he emerged briefly from a Beduin tent.

The King, who was speaking before the Beirut communiqué, looked personally affected by the news of Mr Whitty's death. "It is really most distressing", he said. "It is one of the sad aspects of life we seem to be seeing all too frequently in this part of the world."

The Athens murder came at an embarrassing moment for British diplomats involved in the gruelling Royal schedule, as it once again focused attention on the violent implications of the visit rather than the splendid pageantry, and the enormous boost which it has given to Anglo-Jordanian relations.

Apart from the provocation Britain's fulsome support for Jordan has provided to radical Arab governments angered by the King's reconciliation with the PLO chief, Mr Yassir Arafat, the five-day tour has also had serious repercussions for Anglo-Israeli relations.

Letter from Moscow

Russia's magnificent obsession with food

One of the unwiser ways to spend an idle five minutes in Moscow (a rare occurrence) is to sit down with the airmail edition of *The Times* and read the food column on the back page of Friday's issue.

"English carrots are stable at 8p to 20p per pound", one reads. "but Dutch finger carrots are up by about 3p. "A stifled groan: what earthly delights a Dutch finger carrot must offer. "Cape grapes are cheaper this week, as are seedless Thompson grapes from Chile." I don't think I can take much more of this. "Tesco has leg of lamb on promotion at 154p per pound." Vague memories filter through the snowbound Moscow landscape of "loss leaders" in supermarkets, a concept unknown in a country where you fight your way to the counter to queue for a ticket to queue for meat some pampered English pets would turn their noses up at.

"Chinese leaves, hothouse tomatoes, sirloin steak, topside, oven-ready ducklings..." After a while, the list becomes a blur and the prices become irrelevant. Most Muscovites and resident foreigners would kill to get their hands on grapes and duckling, let alone pay mere money for them.

Food can become an obsession in Moscow, largely because there is not much to go round, except in tourist hotels. In case you should start feeling sorry for us, no food parcels are necessary: Russians do eat well, if stodgily, are ingenious at tracking food down and generous in the extreme to friends.

For that matter, foreigners have special hard currency shops, called *beriozkas* (literally little birch tree, an odd choice of name), and can order consumer goods, including foodstuffs, from firms in Finland, Denmark and West Germany.

The snag is that Soviet customs officials are placing increasingly heavy duties on imports, thereby penalizing foreigners twice: in effect, diplomats, journalists and businessmen have to pay ransom to import goods the Soviet system fails to supply.

Beriozka stores, moreover, reflect in some curious way the often cumbersome and arbitrary distribution system in the Soviet world outside. The few citizens who get in gape at the abundance. None the less, whole categories of products suddenly become *defitsitny*, or out of stock, for no apparent reason.

Not long ago it was red wine (any red wine) and cigarettes (any cigarettes). At the moment, beer and tonic water are not to be had for love or money (your correspondent has tried both). The lack of tonic is a devastating blow to the small British community.

Russians, however, have been used to erratic distribution and chronic shortages for decades, and from their point of view things have looked up. Muscovites are in any case, cushioned by the system of "special orders" through places of employment such as factories and offices, in addition to which the 1982 food programme and the late President Andropov's reforms are beginning to have an effect.

Mr Chernenko remarked in the Kremlin this week that supplies of meat, milk, fruit and vegetables were still unsatisfactory, but bananas, oranges, lemons and even grapefruit do appear at state shops and street kiosks.

Down at the peasant markets, where most Muscovites go for vegetables and salad, not much is on display except cucumbers at 2.50 a kilogram (the average wage is under £200 a month).

Most Russians are waiting happily for the spring, when the collective farms will deliver to the state shops, and the stalls at the peasant market will fill with gold-toothed traders from the south – Georgia, Azerbaijan, the Caucasus and central Asia.

Prices will be high – I once paid £12 for a melon – but the money will be found somehow since most Russians complain that the problem is not that their wages are low but that there is nothing to spend them on.

Meanwhile, one of the most popular Moscow shops is tucked away in a side street near Gorky Park. Every week juggernaut lorries pull up with Warsaw mud on their wheels and disgorge pile upon pile of frozen Polish strawberries, beans, peas, plums, carrots, raspberries.

The shop, called *Morozka* (snow-flake), trades in roubles, not hard currency, so foreigners and Russians rub shoulders to stock up on vitamins from Poland until the thaw comes and the Russian spring arrives.

Richard Owen

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne attends the Mayoral Ball at Chippenham, Wiltshire, 8.30.

Princess Alexandra attends the Royal Air Force anniversary concert at the Royal Festival Hall, 7.50.

New exhibition

Paintings and sculptures by Trevor Edmands, City Art Gallery, Headrow, **Leeds**: Mon to Sat 10 to 6, Sun and Bank Holidays 10 to 5 (until May 7).

Exhibitions in progress

The Arts of Japan, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, **Glasgow**; Mon to sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until April 24).

Apocalypse; prints by Albrecht Durer (1471-1528) and Jean Duvet (1485-1561), Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, **Cambridge**; Tues to sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.15 to 5, closed Mon (until June 24).

Cadbury's National Exhibition of Children's Art, City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, **Edinbugh**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (until April 7).

Homer's Heroes: Mycenaen Greece; Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Sq, **Birmingham**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until April 30).

Last chance to see

Travelling the Herring – displays and photos from the past; Collins Gallery, University of Strathclyde, Richmond St, **Glasgow**; 10 to 5 (ends today).

Summerhill Artists Exhibition; **Falmouth** Art Gallery, Municipal Offices, 10 to 1, 2 to 4.30 (ends today).

Arts and Crafts by residents of Tunbridge Wells, **Tunbridge Wells** Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant, 10 to 5.30 (ends today).

London exhibitions

Rembrandt and the Passion; British Museum, Great Russell St, WC1; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 6 (until April 29).

Lightening Strikes – The Art of Fine Marbling, Living Art, 35 Kenway Road, SW5; Tues to Fri 1.30-6.30, Sat 10-1, 2-4, closed Monday (until April 19).

Bronze sculptures by David Backhouse, Garden Studio, 22 Cathcart Rd, SW10; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 2, closed Sun (until April 19)).

Music

Concert by Konstanty Kulka and Wilfred Boettcher, with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Guildhall, Southampton, 8.

Concert by Musica Aniqua of London, Edgehill College, Bideford, Devon, 8.

Concert by Northern Sinfonia, Town Hall, Middlesbrough, 7.45.

Concert by Stanislaw Skrowaczewski and Erich Gruenberg, Worcester Cathedral, Worcester, 7.30.

Music in London

Concert by London Symphony Orchestra, Barbican Hall, Barbican Centre, EC2, 1.

Concert by London Symphony Orchestra, with Stephen Hough (piano) and Norman Del Mar (conductor), Barbican Hall, Barbican Centre, EC2, 8.

Concert by Arborea Musica, St James's Church, Piccadilly, W1, 7.30.

Piano recital by John Jansonn, Lauderdale House, Waterlow Park, Highgate Hill, N6, 8.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,392

ACROSS

1 Falling off in the organization of cases (10).
6 Severe sort of test for one like Spain's national hero (4).
10 Engraver's tool for an incompetent fiddler (7).
11 One of the main means of securing stability (7).
12 Has he appeared at the bar? He's tried, certainly (9).
13 Oddly enough, this wasn't the road to Mandalay (5).
14 Law officer with rough-sounding partner (5).
15 Poor man! Target for a scolding woman (9).
17 Last month in Dunedin maybe, endlessly irresolute (9).
20 Drunkard could return to shoot again (5).
21 Girl's firm has music date (5).
23 One may submit to this questioning in good faith (9).
25 Turkish title for Finnish, Norwegian and Danish leaders, say? (7).
26 Varsity type about to interrupt neat Scotsman (7).
27 Name of forest heads the chapter (4).
28 Certainly appropriate to the kitchen, this instrument (10).

DOWN

1 Treated medically? The same, but in Latin (5).
2 Sphere of old-fashioned music for the ears of agriculturists? (9).
3 Not the fund, however, for former writer's eastern report (7,7).
4 Insert leaders for a retainer (7).
5 Vehicle is one Robert built for round trip (7).
7 Easy, perhaps, this presidential office (5).
8 One voicing disparagement of Continental farm vehicle (9).
9 Plant makes oil go there and back (5,9).
14 Plain-spoken leader, once a Parliamentarian (9).
16 One who expatiates on sound equipment? (9).
18 Easily led to avoid falling roof material, we hear (7).
19 Tried to change American city (7).
22 Capital one's hidden in a couch (5).
24 Just a wee drop, note (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,391

GRANTCHESTER
RUMMERS KNAVISH
SYLLABI MANITOU
SERVE INSINCERE
CASSANDRA DICER
ICICLES LACONIA
NONAGON TAYSIDE
SECOND FIDDLE

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills. Juries (Disqualification) Bill, third reading. Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill, remaining stages.

Anniversaries

Births: **Maimonides**, philosopher and physician, Cordoba, Spain, 1135; **Charles Booth**, shipowner and sociologist, author of *Life and Labour of the People in London*, Liverpool, 1840; **Vincent van Gogh**, Zundert, Netherlands, 1853; **Sean Casey**, Dublin, 1880.

Deaths: **William Hunter**, obstetrician and medical writer, London, 1783; **Rudolph Steiner**, scientist, Dornach, Switzerland, 1925; **Léon Blum**, premier of France, 1936-37, Jouy-en-Josas, 1950.

Food prices

A television campaign by the Sea Fish Industry Authority is due to start this summer to "familiarize consumers with the potential of herring as a food." This will coincide with the reopening of extensive areas of the North Sea off the English and Scottish coasts for herring fishing, which have been closed for conservation reasons for the last seven years.

It seems that people aged under 25 are reluctant to buy fish anyway and it is hoped that the work of the authority's senior home economist, Miss Kay Martin, on new recipes will revive the public's interest in fish and particularly in herring.

This week fish prices are higher due to storms at sea and poor catches. Bone herring is one of the exceptions averaging about 87p a pound, 5p cheaper than last week. There is an increase of about 3p on most varieties but cod fillets may be up as much as 20p a pound. Peeled prawns at £3.32 a pound are down by about 6p.

Meat consumption is down by 6 per cent on 1983 which must worry the meat producers and probably accounts for the many bargains available in shops and supermarkets. Some retail prices may be up by a penny a pound. Top side and silver side range from £1.89 to £2.30 a pound and boneless brisket £1.30 to £1.68 a pound. Lamb prices are up yet again by about a penny or two a pound and this shows on loin chops ranging from £1.70 to £2.44 a pound.

The price of onions at between 20 and 32p a pound, carrots 12 to 22p, potatoes 14 to 25p, have shown an increase again this week but leeks and cauliflower are a little cheaper at 45 to 60 pence a pound. Avocados at 20 to 60p each according to size are a good buy. Best apple buys from the wide selection available are English Cox's 35 to 50p a pound. French Golden Delicious 22 to 35p a pound and British Columbian red delicious 35 to 45p a pound.

The price of eggs is going up by 3p a dozen on Monday on sizes one to four. EY

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.61	1.53
Austria Sch	27.50	25.90
Belgium Fr	82.25	78.25
Canada $	1.91	1.84
Denmark Kr	14.25	13.55
Finland Mkk	8.38	7.98
France Fr	11.86	11.36
Germany DM	3.86	3.68
Greece Dr	161.00	151.00
Hongkong $	11.65	11.05
Ireland Pt	127	121
Italy Lira	2400.00	2300.00
Japan Yen	340.00	324.00
Netherlands Gld	4.38	4.16
Norway Kr	11.33	10.73
Portugal Esc	197.00	187.00
South Africa Rd	1.97	1.83
Spain Pta	216.50	207.50
Sweden Kr	11.62	11.04
Switzerland Fr	3.23	3.06
USA $	1.49	1.44
Yugoslavia Dnr	184.00	174.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 344.00

London: The *FT* Index closed up 6.6 at 881.8.

Roads

Midlands: A6: Closed, diversion between Leicester and Derby at Kegworth: A49: Single line traffic, temporary signals at junction A456 at Wooferton, Shropshire. A45: Lane closures east and westbound along Bury St Edmunds by pass.

North: A1: Safety barriers being erected between Micklefield and Wetherby. A6: Only one lane southbound, northbound unaffected at Wellington Road North, Stockport, Manchester. A689: Improvement work between Newton Bewley and Caxton Bank, Cleveland.

Wales and West: A470: Subsidence, 24 hour temporary traffic signals between Builth Wells and Llyswen at Erwood. A470: North and southbound carriageway lane closures south of Pontypridd, bridge repairs, temporary traffic signals, working hours only at junction 32 Merthyr Tydfil. A55: Ewloe flyover construction, Holywell by pass resurfacing, 24 hour temporary signals between Chester to Colwyn Bay.

Scotland: A8: Water main replacement, width restrictions at High Street, Saltmarket. A76: Realignment work, single lane traffic and temporary traffic signals south of junction with A719, south-east of Kilmarnock. A84: Improvements, single lane at south end of Loch Lubmaig south of Strathyre.

Information supplied by AA

The papers

The **Daily Mirror** says that "South Africa is ruled by an evil regime and when the bosses of English rugby vote today to send a team there they will be voting to support that evil. They will trot out the usual guilt-ridden excuses. But ignore them.

The paper adds: "Blacks have no votes, no MPs and no future. Their leader, Nelson Mandela, has been in prison without trial for 16 years. That is the kind of society which English rugby will prop up with their talents. In so doing, they will not damage apartheid but strengthen it."

Top films

The top box-office films in London:
1 (1) Terms of Endearment
2 (2) To Be or Not To Be
3 (3) Champions
4 (–) Uncommon Valour
5 (–) The Dresser
6 (4) Risky Business
7 (7) Trading Places
8 (6) Carmen
9 (–) Educating Rita
10 (–) La Balance

The top films in the provinces:
1 Terms of Endearment
2 To Be or Not To Be
3 Baby Love
4 La Traviata
5 Risky Business

Supplied by *Screen International*

Top video rentals

1 (2) Raiders of the Lost Ark
2 (3) Flashdance
3 (1) Octopussy
4 (4) Halloween III – Season of the Witch
5 (6) 48 Hours
6 (9) The Entity
7 (5) 1941
8 (41) The Verdict
9 (44) Young Doctors in Love
10 (12) Porky's

Compiled by *Video Business*

Weather forecast

A depression over S Norway will remain slow moving, with a rather cold N to NW airstream covering most areas.

6am to midnight

London, SE, SW, Cen S, Cen N England, Midlands, S Wales, Channel Islands: A few early fog patches, then sunny periods and isolated showers, wind NW light, max temp 10C (50F).

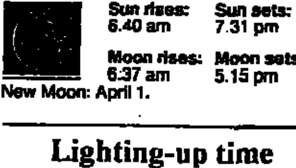
E Anglia, E, NE England, Borders: Rather cloudy with showers and a few sunny intervals, wind NW moderate, max temp 6C (43F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow, SW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, wind NW mainly light, max temp 8C (46F).

Aberdeen, Cen Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy with showers, heavy and wintry at times, wind N strong locally gale, max temp 5C (41F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Generally similar with sunny intervals and showers, but more general rain and cloud may reach parts of the S. Remaining rather cold.

SEA PASSAGES: S, North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind, W to NW becoming variable light to moderate; showers: visibility, good; sea, slight. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind, mainly NW light; mainly fair: visibility, good; Sea, smooth.



Sun rises: 6.40 am Sun sets: 7.31 pm

Moon rises: 6:37 am Moon sets: 5.15 pm

New Moon: April 1.

Lighting-up time

London 8.01 pm to 6.08 am
Bristol 8.10 pm to 6.18 am
Edinburgh 8.17 pm to 6.16 am
Manchester 8.11 pm to 6.15 am
Penzance 8.21 pm to 6.31 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	8	46	Guernsey	s	9	48
Birmingham	c	7	45	Inverness	f	6	43
Blackpool	c	7	45	Jersey	s	10	50
Bristol	c	9	43	London	r	8	46
Cardiff	r	8	46	Manchester	c	9	48
Edinburgh	f	7	45	Newcastle	sn	5	41
Glasgow	f	9	43	Ronaldsway	f	8	46

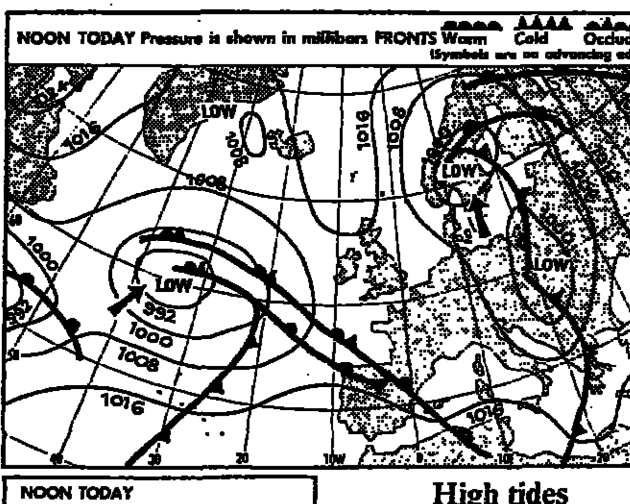
Highest and lowest

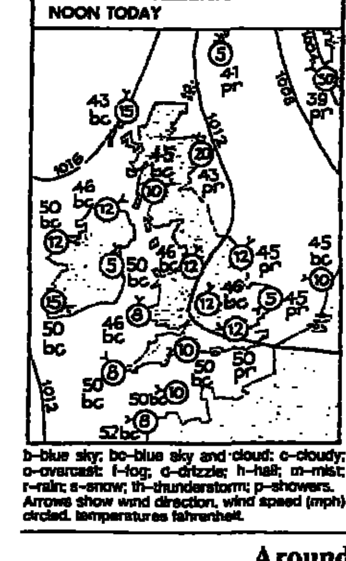
Yesterday: Highest day temp: Newquay, 14 C (57F); lowest day max: Benbecula, 5 C (14F); highest rainfall: Hastings, 0,67 in; highest sunshine: Angelesey, 10.8 hr.

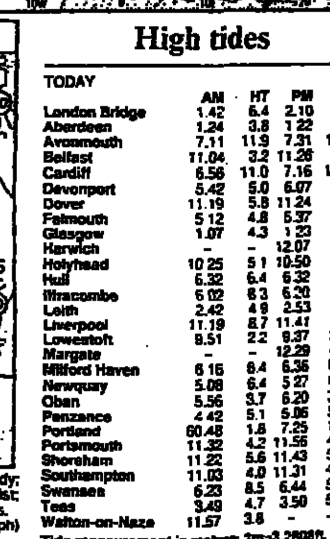
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 9C (48F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 69 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 00.3in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 3.0. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,011.3 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53 in.

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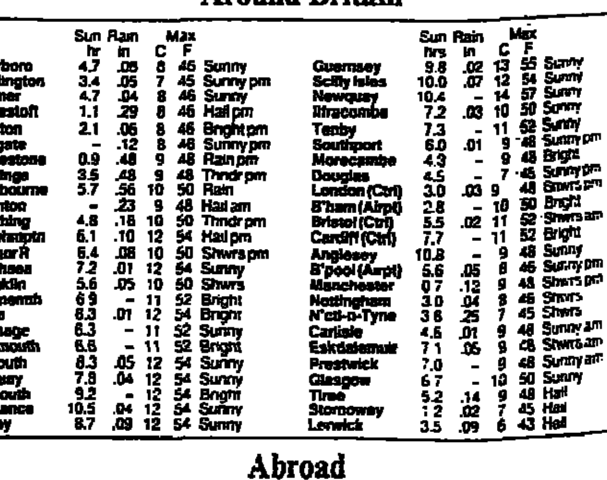
b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.42	6.4	2.10	6.8
Aberdeen	1.24	3.8	1.22	3.8
Avonmouth	7.11	11.9	7.31	11.9
Belfast	11.04	3.2	11.26	3.0
Cardiff	6.56	11.0	7.16	11.0
Devonport	5.42	5.0	6.07	5.0
Dover	11.19	5.8	11.24	6.1
Falmouth	5.12	4.8	5.37	4.8
Glasgow	1.07	4.3	1.23	4.6
Harwich	–	–	12.07	3.8
Holyhead	10.25	5.1	10.50	5.0
Hull	6.32	6.4	6.32	6.9
Ilfracombe	6.02	8.3	6.20	8.3
Leith	2.42	4.9	2.53	5.0
Liverpool	11.19	8.7	11.41	[illegible]
Lowestoft	8.51	2.2	9.37	2.3
Margate	–	–	12.29	[illegible]
Milford Haven	6.16	6.4	6.36	6.3
Newquay	5.08	6.4	5.27	6.4
Oban	5.56	3.7	6.20	3.5
Penzance	4.42	5.1	5.06	[illegible]
Portland	60.48	1.8	7.25	1.8
Portsmouth	11.32	4.2	11.56	4.4
Shoreham	11.22	5.6	11.43	5.8
Southampton	11.03	4.0	11.31	[illegible]
Swansea	6.23	8.5	6.44	8.5
Tees	3.49	4.7	3.50	5.0
Walton-on-Naze	11.57	3.8	–	–

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.



Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	4.7	.08	8	46	Sunny	Guernsey	9.8	.02	13	55	Sunny
Bridlington	3.4	.05	7	45	Sunny pm	Scilly Isles	10.0	.07	12	54	Sunny
Cromer	4.7	.04	8	46	Sunny	Newquay	10.4	–	14	57	Sunny
Lowestoft	1.1	.29	8	46	Hail pm	Ilfracombe	7.2	.03	10	50	Sunny
Clacton	2.1	.06	8	46	Bright pm	Tenby	7.3	–	11	52	Sunny
Margate	–	.12	8	46	Sunny pm	Southport	6.0	.01	9	48	Sunny pm
Folkestone	0.9	.48	9	48	Rain pm	Morecambe	4.3	–	9	48	Bright
Hastings	3.5	.48	9	48	Thndr pm	Douglas	4.5	–	7	45	Sunny pm
Eastbourne	5.7	.56	10	50	Rain	London (Ctrl)	3.0	.03	9	48	Shwrs pm
Brighton	–	.23	9	48	Hail am	B'ham (Airpt)	2.8	–	10	50	Bright
Worthing	4.8	.18	10	50	Thndr pm	Bristol (Ctrl)	5.5	.02	11	52	Shwrs am
Littlehmptn	6.1	.10	12	54	Hail pm	Cardiff (Ctrl)	7.7	–	11	52	Bright
Bognor R	6.4	.08	10	50	Shwrs pm	Anglesey	10.8	–	9	48	Sunny
Southsea	7.2	.01	12	54	Sunny	B'pool (Airpt)	5.6	.05	8	46	Sunny pm
Shanklin	5.6	.05	10	50	Shwrs	Manchester	0.7	.12	9	48	Shwrs pm
Bournemth	6.9	–	11	52	Bright	Nottingham	3.0	.04	8	46	Shwrs
Poole	6.3	.01	12	54	Bright	N'ctl-o-Tyne	3.8	.25	7	45	Shwrs
Swanage	6.3	–	11	52	Sunny	Carlisle	4.6	.01	9	48	Sunny am
Weymouth	6.6	–	11	52	Bright	Eskdalemuir	7.1	.05	9	48	Shwrs am
Exmouth	8.3	.05	12	54	Sunny	Prestwick	7.0	–	9	48	Sunny am
Torquay	7.8	.04	12	54	Sunny	Glasgow	6.7	–	10	50	Sunny
Falmouth	9.2	–	12	54	Bright	Tiree	5.2	.14	9	48	Hail
Penzance	10.5	.04	12	54	Sunny	Stornoway	1.2	.02	7	45	Hail
Jersey	8.7	.09	12	54	Sunny	Lerwick	3.5	.09	6	43	Hail

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

	C	F		C	F		C	F		C	F
Ajaccio s	14	57	Copenhgn f	6	43	Majorca s	16	61	Rio de Jan		
Akrotiri s	21	70	Corfu s	17	63	Malaga s	18	64	Rome r	13	55
Alexandria c	21	70	Dallas			Malta s	20	68	Salzburg c	18	[illegible]
Algiers s	18	64	Dublin c	9	43	Melbourne s	24	75	Sao Paulo		
Amsterdam c	6	43	Dubrovnik s	16	61	Mexico C			S Francisco		
Athens s	18	64	Faro s	17	63	Miami			Santiago		
Bahrain s	24	75	Florence r	14	57	Milan c	9	48	Seoul s	13	55
Barbados			Frankfurt	7	45	Montreal			Singapore f	30	[illegible]
Barcelona s	13	64	Funchal s	18	64	Moscow c	3	37	Stockholm c	1	34
Beirut s	21	70	Geneva c	8	46	Munich r	6	43	Strasbourg c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Belgrade s	20	63	Gibraltar s	17	63	Nairobi			Sydney s	20	68
Berlin f	15	59	Helsinki c	3	37	Naples c	13	55	Tangier f	17	63
Bermuda			Hongkong c	21	70	New Delhi s	32	90	Tel Aviv s	23	[illegible]
Biarritz c	10	50	Innsbruck r	7	45	New York			Tenerife c	19	66
Boulogne r	6	43	Istanbul			Nice f	14	57	Tokyo s	17	[illegible]
Bordeaux f	12	54	Jiddah s	29	84	Oslo sn	0	32	Toronto		
Brussels c	7	45	Jo'burg c	21	70	Ottawa			Tunis f	17	63
Budapest f	18	64	Karachi s	31	88	Paris r	7	45	Valencia s	19	66
Buen Aires			Las Palmas f	20	68	Peking s	15	59	Vancouver		
Cairo s	23	73	Lisbon c	14	57	Perth c	23	73	Venice r	11	52
Cape Tn s	29	84	Locarno s	1	34	Prague s	15	59	Vienna r	19	66
C'blanca f	18	64	L Angeles			Reykjavik f	-1	30	Warsaw f	13	55
Chicago			Luxembg c	6	43	Rhodes s	20	68	Washington		
Cologne r	8	46	Madrid f	11	52	Riyadh s	29	84	Zurich c	6	43



هكذا من الأصل